

Read Edition 123 for news on the successful restoration of NRAS and more.



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Edition 123, 25 February 2011

Dear <<First Name>>,

In this edition of the NB we celebrate the restoration of NRAS, announce the program for our 2011 National Affordable Housing Exchange, provide information on NSWFA's Election Campaign, and details of free television airtime being offered to non-profits by the SBS Foundation. We also, as usual, have a number of resources of interest and upcoming events to share with you. If you have an event or news item you would like to share in the NB, please [let us know](#).

As usual please feel free to distribute the NB within your own networks or forward it on to anyone who may be interested.

Kind regards and happy reading,

Shelly Forceville
Administration and Communications Officer
On behalf of the CHFA Team

CHFA Applaud Restoration of NRAS

CHFA are delighted with news of the restoration of the National Rental Affordability Scheme as announced by Prime Minister Julia Gillard, and the Australian Greens last week. After much hard work lobbying for the future security of the program as a member of the National Affordable Housing Summit, CHFA are pleased to see the future of the Scheme now looking secure. Not only has a re-commitment to NRAS been made past 2014-2015 but it also appears that the NRAS Expert Panel will also be reconvened with issues around NRAS processes to be addressed. CHFA would like to thank everyone who assisted in the campaign effort over the past month.

[CHFA's press release](#) on the restoration can be

New Resources Available

[Marginal Tenures - A National Picture](#)

This is a paper produced for National Shelter examining marginal tenures, such as those provided in boarding houses and caravan parks, providing details of current numbers of marginal tenants, the issues currently surrounding these tenancies, and the development of a national policy position.

[Kinetic Information Systems Offer for Smaller Community Housing Organisations](#)

Kinetic Information Systems will be partnering with Addax Business Solutions to offer smaller-sized community housing organisations (under 200 properties) with a totally hosted business information system for a discounted rate. It will provide these organisations with all the requirements expected from any housing organisation, including rent accounting, tenant care, asset management and more.

Training and Events

[Improving housing affordability: the tax reform debate \(Melbourne\)](#)

This seminar hosted by AHURI will bring together national commentators and analysts to explore, discuss and debate different facets of housing and tax, with particular emphasis on the Henry Tax Review's recommendations for addressing housing supply issues - and the impact of the recommended reforms on housing affordability stress.

[Strategic workforce planning workshop](#)

This upcoming strategic workforce planning workshop will enable you to analyse changes in the sector and plan for your future workforce needs. Each participant will receive the comprehensive people management template developed by the NSW Federation of Housing Associations and full set of tools and information to ensure that the executive team is equipped to develop and lead a high performing organisation.

Acknowledgements

Information for our eBulletin comes from many sources. We would particularly like to thank State and Territory community housing peaks for their contributions, and also Garry Mallard of the Tenant Support Network for his National News bulletins. The Community Housing Federation of Australia is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

viewed via the CHFA website.

Further details can be found in press releases from [PM Gillard](#) and the [Australian Greens](#).

2011 National Affordable Housing Exchange Program Available, Early Bird Registration Extended

The program for the 2011 National Affordable Housing Exchange is now available on the event website, and early bird registrations are open, and have been extended until the 9th of March. We recommend that you take a look at the program as soon as possible, as masterclass sessions are likely to fill up quickly and those who register first will get first preference in their choice of sessions.

[A full range of information on the 2011 Exchange is available on the event website](#), including the program, and registration details.

NSWFHA Call for Election Commitments

With the NSW State Election coming up on the 26th of March, the NSW Federation of Housing Associations have released their key focusses for the election campaign, highlighting a number of commitments that they would like to see taken up by all parties and candidates. These include:

- Continuing the growth of the community housing sector by vesting the title to all government properties currently managed by registered community housing providers so they can build more low cost housing through gearing;
- Improved capacity and service delivery by committing to transfer at least a further 15% of public housing to community management over the term of the next government;
- Retaining an affordable housing planning instrument, following the review of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009;
- Increasing affordable rental housing by ensuring that NSW provide sufficient matching to secure at least 30 per cent of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) initiatives available nationally;
- Making NRAS properties accessible to very low income households and to maintain them as affordable housing for more than 10 years, by providing additional capital subsidies;
- Expansion of the supply of Aboriginal community managed housing, and

maintaining of the Aboriginal Housing Office and Board.

More information on these issues as well as details of a letter writing campaign to support NSWFA's efforts can be found in the [latest Federation Bulletin](#).

SBS Foundation Offering Non-Profits Free TV Airtime

If you're planning to run a promotional campaign this year, and would love to get some television exposure but have been held back by the cost, here is your opportunity. Television station SBS is currently calling for nominations from charities and not-for-profits to share in \$2 million worth of television airtime the SBS Foundation will donate during 2011. Nominations close at 5pm (DEST) Thursday 31 March 2011.

For more information, including application forms [please see the SBS website](#).

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