



# Affordable and Appropriate Housing for All

The Government is providing access to more appropriate and more affordable housing for all Canberrans through the Housing Affordability Action Plan.

The Housing Affordability Action Plan, launched in 2007, is the country's most innovative and comprehensive housing strategy targeting all aspects of the housing market and people in all types of tenure. It includes a range of strategies aimed at increasing land supply and affordable house and land packages, making more effective use of public housing, expanding community housing, and increasing financial concessions for home buyers.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Implementation of the Housing Affordability Action Plan is well advanced and already the Government has:

- increased the supply of land by an additional 1,000 blocks to a total of 3,200 in 2007-08;
- streamlined land release and approval processes, and introduced englobo releases;
- mandated the delivery of house and land packages priced between \$200,000 and \$300,000;
- released two demonstration projects to showcase affordable land and housing packages;
- funded a design award for excellence in affordable housing;
- provided more generous concessions to help more Canberrans buy a home;
- invited institutional investors to provide affordable private rental accommodation;
- boosted community housing with an equity injection of \$40 million and a loan facility of \$50 million;

- ensured that better and more targeted use is made of public housing - 87 per cent of new allocations were made to applicants in urgent need of housing compared with just over 38 per cent nationally;
- introduced a shared equity scheme for public housing tenants, which will become active by the end of 2008; and
- implemented measures to improve the energy efficiency of the public housing stock and reduce energy costs for public housing tenants.

## ACT BUDGET 2008-09 – READY FOR THE FUTURE

The 2008-09 Budget continues the Government's investment in providing more affordable and appropriate housing for the future by:

- accelerating land release with funding to support the release of more than 15,000 blocks to be released through the five year land supply program;
- introducing a land rent scheme, where households pay rent on the land, rather than purchase it, making entry into the housing market easier for first-home buyers;
- providing duty concessions for aged pensioners, disability support pensioners and Veterans' Gold Card holders, to assist them move into more appropriate housing;
- increasing income threshold for the Home Buyer Concession Scheme to \$120,000;
- supporting children in public housing; and
- strengthening the Energy Efficient Rating System for ACT public housing stock.





# FACTSHEET No: 11

## ACT BUDGET 2008-09 INITIATIVES

INITIATIVE	WHAT DO THESE INITIATIVES DELIVER FOR THE FUTURE?
\$110,000 for children in Public Housing.	This will ensure public housing better meets the needs of children and young people.
\$267,000 over two years for accelerated land development.	More land is available for housing in the ACT.
\$1.7 million over four years for feasibility studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urban development sequence for affordable housing Molonglo and North Weston;</li> <li>• urban development sequence for affordable housing environmental impact assessment Molonglo; and</li> <li>• urban development sequence for affordable housing concept plans Gungahlin.</li> </ul>	Innovative models of affordable housing developed for new suburbs.
\$476,000 over four years for energy efficient housing.	A reliable and Energy Efficient Rating (EER) system used for buildings in the ACT ensuring public confidence in the system.

# BUDGET 2008 - 2009

### Further information

Department of Treasury  
 Finance and Budget Division  
 GPO Box 158, Canberra City ACT 2601  
[www.treasury.act.gov.au](http://www.treasury.act.gov.au)