



# A plan to end homelessness in Victoria |

## Key messages

When preparing for a meeting with a current MP or candidate, it's important to be clear about what messages you want to communicate.

Be prepared with 3-5 key messages to use as talking points. Include localised data about your service and your community where possible.

### Some useful messages you could use include:

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- Homelessness is a serious problem in our electorate. (Use these electorate profiles).
- The number one cause of homelessness is that people on low incomes can't find housing that they can afford. Victoria needs 6,000 new social housing properties every year for the next ten years for people without homes.
- Domestic and family violence is the biggest cause of homelessness for women and children, but currently more than three in every four households fleeing violence and needing housing miss out. We need to guarantee housing for victim survivors fleeing violence.
- Young people experience very high rates of homelessness, but Victoria doesn't currently have a joined-up system of support for them. We need a youth homelessness strategy, and 5,000 new social housing properties for young people.
- The work of support services is integral to ending homelessness. Good support can be the difference between recurring homelessness and a housing solution that sticks.
- We're calling on all political parties to support the calls contained in the recently released Victorian homelessness election platform 'A plan to end homelessness in Victoria'. This includes:
  - End homelessness for women, children, and other victim-survivors of family violence including by providing a housing guarantee for all victim-survivors.
  - Deliver 6,000 new social housing properties every year for the next ten years.
  - Prevent homelessness with new prevention workers, and by expanding the *TenancyPlus* program.
  - End rough sleeping and recurring homelessness by extending *From Homelessness to a Home* and *Homes for Families* programs.



- End youth homelessness with a new youth homelessness strategy, social housing for young people, and increased family mediation resources.
- Deliver 600 new social housing properties each year into Aboriginal community control and implement the *Blueprint for an Aboriginal-specific Homelessness System in Victoria* to end Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homelessness.
- Implement the SHS Workforce Development Strategy to address skills shortages in the SHS.
- Improve the legal system's treatment of people without homes with fairer laws, bail reform, and by recognising the human right to housing.