



FAQs - WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030

What is the WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030?

The Strategy will set the direction for housing in Western Australia. It is a call to action for all sectors to work together to improve housing choices and pathways and will consider how to improve access to suitable and affordable homes by responding to current and future needs.

The Strategy will be supported by three, more detailed implementation plans for affordable housing, regional and remote housing and social housing that will be released over the next two years.

Why is there a need for a Strategy?

The Affordable Housing Strategy 2010-2020 and the Affordable Housing Action Plan expire in 2020. Despite their success, a number of Western Australians continue to be locked out of the housing system. The WA State Government seeks to improve the WA housing system so that the sector can respond to changing needs and circumstances.

What is the scope of the Strategy?

The scope of the Strategy addresses the housing continuum, from homelessness to homeownership. The Strategy will take a whole of system approach which will include the role of Government, private sector and the not-for-profit sector. It is important to note that our approach does not presume home ownership as the 'end goal' for all Western Australians.

What are the timeframes for the Strategy and why are they so short?

The Strategy will be announced in the first half of 2020. The Strategy will be a high-level document that will provide a guideline to the three comprehensive documents that will follow, ensuring consistency of definitions and direction.

What do the outcomes of the Strategy look like?

The outcomes of the Strategy are being defined through our consultation process and will link with the State's whole-of-government outcome framework. The Strategy will also align to the Governments [Our Priorities – Sharing Prosperity](#).

Will the Strategy link with the 10-Year Homelessness Strategy that is currently under development by the Department of Communities?

Yes. We have consulted with the team working on the Homelessness Strategy and will continue to do so moving forward to make sure that the two strategies talk to each other.



Will the Strategy consider the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage's (DPLH) Perth and Peel @3.5 million frameworks?

The Strategy will link to Perth and Peel @ 3.5 and will take into consideration how planning plays a key role in implementation. It is the intention that the Strategy will not directly respond to population growth forecasts or changes in economic and market cycles, rather provide a housing system that is able to respond when these changes do happen.

How will the Strategy address the needs of different groups?

While we treat everyone as individuals, the following cohorts have been identified as having specific housing outcome requirements: seniors, Aboriginal people, people with disability, seniors, youth 18-25 and families with children.

How will the Strategy respond to the needs of people such as those experiencing homelessness, or family and domestic violence?

The Strategy recognises that people may experience situational housing needs resulting from circumstances, such as family and domestic violence and homelessness, at any time. The housing system needs to be able to respond in a timely way to these needs with all sectors working in collaboration.

Will the Strategy have targets attached to it?

Yes. Consultation indicates that the targets in the previous strategy were important in focusing effort on affordable housing, however this strategy needs to have a stronger focus on outcomes rather than just numbers of houses.

How will the Strategy engage with the regions?

We are working with ShelterWA to consult with the regions in October 2019 through a series of regional visits. Further consultation will be undertaken in developing the Regional and Remote Housing Plan that will sit under the Strategy.

How will the needs of community housing organisations (CHOs) be addressed in the Strategy?

We are engaging with CHOs via ShelterWA to focus on developing partnerships including clarity around the roles of industry and the broader sector.

Are there opportunities for engagement with the Strategy?

The completed Strategy will not be released for public comment. Consultation summaries have been posted to our website and we invite you to have your say by emailing us at WAHousingStrategy@communities.wa.gov.au.



What is your governance structure like?

The Strategy has engaged an external working group comprised of state and national thought leaders to guide the development of the Strategy. A housing policy reference group comprised of state government agencies is also being established.

Will you be capturing peoples' lived experience as part of work on the Strategy?

We are working with Shelter WA and the Tenants Advocacy Group to engage with peoples' lived experience.

What evidence base are you using to develop the Strategy?

The Strategy will have a strong evidence base considering demographic trends and projections over the course of the next ten years and trends in home ownership, affordability metrics, market scenarios, unmet demand for social and affordable housing, as well as household income statistics.

What have you done so far?

We have currently undertaken one round of conversation workshops and are gearing up for a second round of consultations. Insights are still emerging from the conversation workshops. Our external working group has been established and will continue to provide us with high-level advice moving forward. We are establishing the evidence base and developing the Strategy's outcomes framework.