

**Submission
No 13**

**OPTIONS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO EXISTING AND ALTERNATE
ACCOMMODATION TO ADDRESS THE SOCIAL HOUSING SHORTAGE**

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I see that there are a lot of vacant buildings in my area and indeed the whole LGA of Sydney. In my building there are 3 vacant apartments and someone could be living in them rather than sleep rough. The problem is that the government has to actually provide the wrap around support that they claim to implement and they dont.

My experience is and observation that they are abusing the rough sleepers by not delivering this. Its a human right to have shelter and when someone that sleeps rough, wishes to live in an apartment/house is not provided the support to achieve that then we let them down. Why not put something in place where buildings are vacant to provide this vital shelter. Even buildings that are privately owned.

There is a building in my area that i am thinking of that has been without renters for at least two decades. It is enough for 2 families from what i can see from the outside. There are many but this is the one i pass on my daily walks. I look across from where i live and there is the biggest population of rough sleepers there.

Not to mention the amount of people 'couch surfing' and people evicted during covid because they couldnt afford the rent. The city has become way to expensive for most people to live here also and when a community has an attachment to an area they should be able to continue that. I myself am disabled and Royal prince alfred hospital is close by.

I also have a community of people that help me and i help them. We have a garden we share in the common area and we gather with the cat(and dog) that live in the building as well. This should not be only possible is one is middle class, able bodied and has a job. The most marginalised should be able to live anywhere