

4 December 2008



Legislative Council
Standing Committee on Social Issues
**Inquiry into homelessness and
low-cost rental accommodation**

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Issues Committee, Hon Ian West MLC, today announced that the Committee will be examining the policies and programs, outside of mainstream public housing, that are being implemented to reduce homelessness and increase the availability of key worker accommodation and low-cost rental accommodation.

Mr West said “The Committee is concerned at the impact of homelessness and the lack of low-cost, affordable housing. The Committee will be looking at a variety of models for the provision of low-cost housing, such as co-operative and community housing as well as methods of fast tracking the capacity of housing providers to deliver low cost rental accommodation.”

“In addition the Committee will examine strategies to attract private sector investment, current barriers to growth in low cost rental housing as well as strategies to avoid concentrations of disadvantage and grow cohesive communities.”

Mr West continued, “The inquiry terms of reference ask us to examine initiatives that are being implemented both within Australia and internationally.”

The Committee is commencing the inquiry with a call for submissions. Mr West on behalf of the Committee said “I’d like to encourage all interested people and organisations to contribute to this important inquiry.”

Submission may be lodged with the Committee secretariat either in hard copy or via the Committee website. Submissions should be sent to:

The Director, Standing Committee on Social Issues, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000 or lodged electronically via the Committee website – www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/social/issues.

For further information, including how to make a submission to this inquiry and copies of the terms of reference, visit the NSW Parliament website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialissues, contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 9230 3504 or email socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

The Committee is to produce its report by 24 September 2009. The closing date for submissions is **6 March 2009**.

For further comment please contact the Hon Ian West MLC,

Committee Chair, on 9230 2052

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