AHURi

NATIONAL HOUSING
RESEARCH PROGRAM

NATIONAL HOUSING RESEARCH PROGRAM
FUNDING ROUND 2023

Research Agenda

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1.   Purpose

The National Housing Research Program (NHRP) is building an evidence-base of practical applied research to support policy development, and is adding new knowledge to housing, homelessness, cities, urban policy and related disciplines. The NHRP Research Agenda is updated annually to provide direction in the development of this evidence-base and to set priorities for the annual funding round. The Research Agenda is developed through consultation with government Housing Chief Executives, the Australian Government, relevant state and territory government departments, Research Centre Directors, the AHURI Limited Board and the NHRP Research Panel.

The purpose of this document is to present the AHURI NHRP 2023 Research Agenda.

The 2023 Research Agenda is structured around two Inquiry topics, three Investigative Panels and topics provided for six Research projects plus a Data project.

These topics have direct relevance to policy development priorities and call for research to inform practice and policy reforms.

2. Policy Development Research Model

The Policy Development Research Model facilitates engagement between the research and policy communities. Policy development research integrates the traditionally separate processes of evidence building and policy development into one set of practices. The Policy Development Research Model demands a high degree of collaboration within and between the policy and research communities.

This occurs through specialised research vehicles developed by AHURI, in which research and policy engagement are integrated. These vehicles include AHURI Inquiries, Investigative Panels and Research projects, which are established to address identified policy research priorities (Figure 1). AHURI identifies policy research priority issues through direct consultation with senior officials in the Australian Government, state and territory government Housing Chief Executives, Research Centre Directors and the NHRP Research Panel. The agenda is agreed by senior officials and endorsed by the AHURI Limited Board.

Figure 1: Policy development research
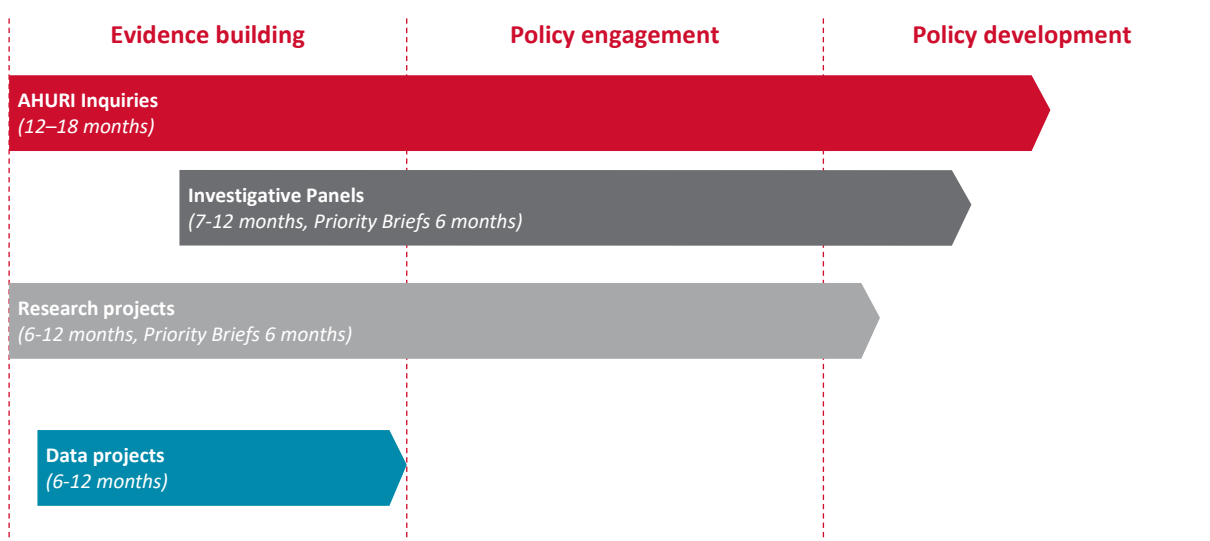
Inquiries

An Inquiry is led by academics with the expertise to develop the Inquiry Program which provides the overall logic and the framework of the Inquiry. This Inquiry Leadership Team also conduct a suite of independent, original research modules to advance knowledge to address the policy issue. The Inquiry Panel draws a mix of policy and practice expertise from government, non-government and private sectors together to consider the evidence and the outcomes of the research to address the policy issue and to make particular recommendations for policy development and/or practice innovation (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Inquiry key personnel structure
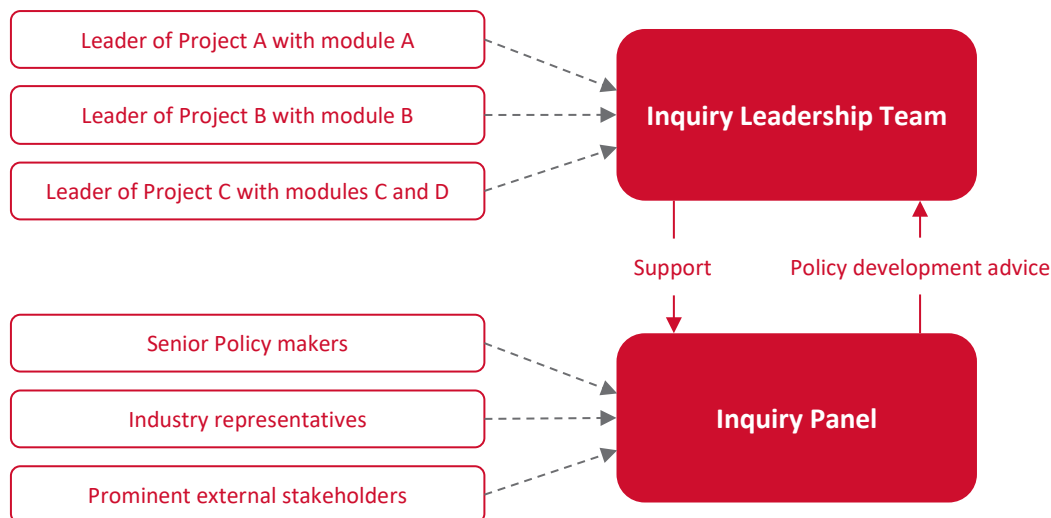
The Inquiry Leadership Team authors the materials for the Inquiry Panel and all publications for the Inquiry. The Final Report for the Inquiry and for each of the modules are published over the course of the Inquiry in the AHURI journal series. These Final Reports are double blind peer reviewed. An example of the structure and outputs expected in an Inquiry is depicted in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Inquiry structure and outputs
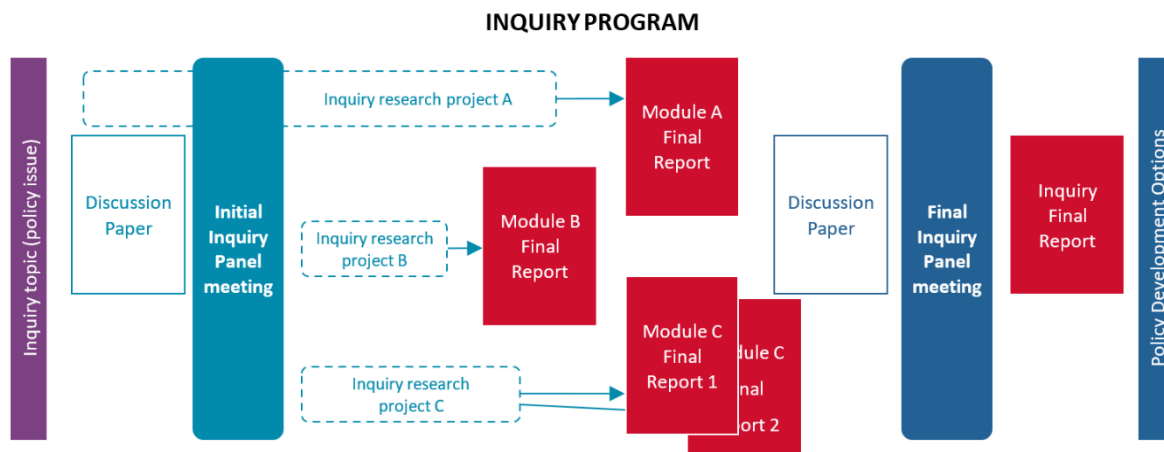
In the NHRP 2023 Funding Round, funded Inquiries will run in parallel—each focussed on one pressing policy issue, as listed below and detailed in Chapter 3.

- **2023A**   Inquiry into governance, resourcing and objectives of Aboriginal housing support

- **2023B**   Inquiry into housing policy disaster preparedness and responsiveness

Investigative Panels

Investigative Panels are designed to bring about direct engagement between experts from the research and policy communities, and practitioners from industry and community sectors, to interrogate a specific policy or practice question. They are best suited to research examining new or emerging policy issues, for which rapid evidence building is required.

The Investigative Panel is a research method that draws together elements of key informant interview and focus group approaches, to generate new knowledge through the expert panel discussions. The Panel may be called together for one or two meetings, depending on the research approach. The research approach may also include other research activities or methods, such as a literature review, interviews or secondary data analysis, but the information from the Panel members is an important contribution to the research. Panel members are chosen for their expertise and knowledge about the subject. The Final Report is, however, authored by the researcher(s) and contributions from individual Panel members are not attributed or identifiable. Typical processes involved in an Investigative Panel are shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Investigative Panel process
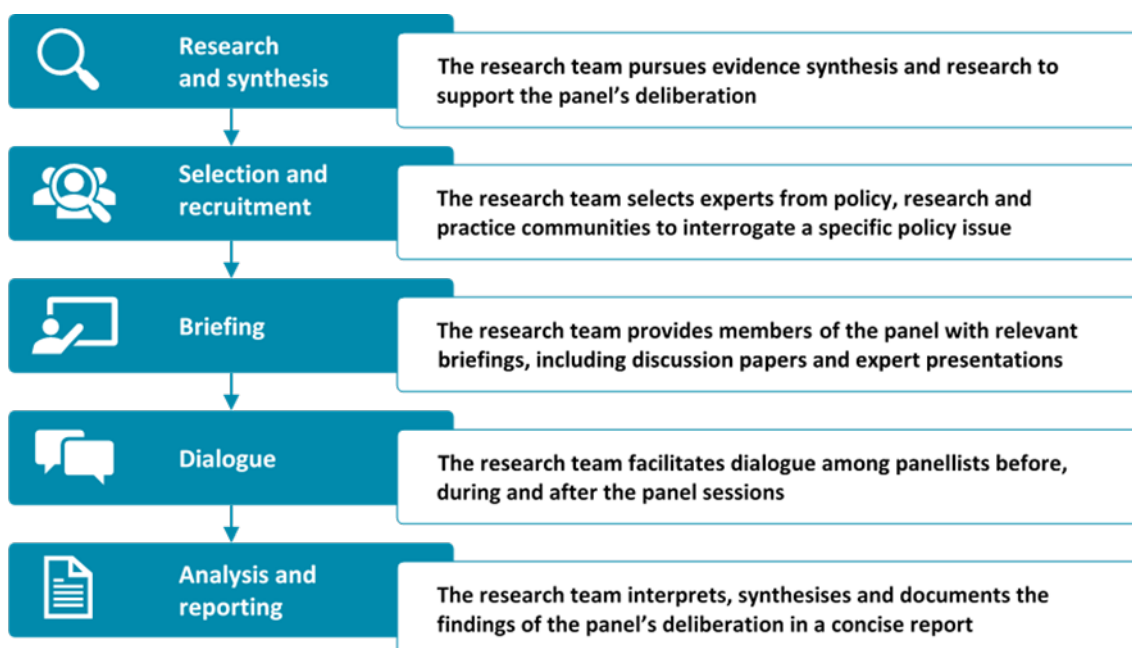
An Investigative Panel is deemed the most appropriate method to address the topics listed below and detailed in Chapter 4.

- **2023C**   Investigative Panel on changing regional housing markets

- **2023D**   Investigative Panel on housing and temporary visa holders

- **2023E**   Investigative Panel on public administration of housing policy

Research projects

The NHRP Funding Round 2023 will include funding for Research projects which include Data projects, to ensure coverage of a broad range of policy issues and more varied research delivery output timelines. Research projects use a wide variety of research methods to tackle the research topic. Research projects may vary in scale and can range across discrete secondary data analysis to limited primary data collection exercises. These are listed below and detailed in Chapter 5.

- **2023F**   The paradigm shift in homelessness response

- **2023G**   Making the case for social housing

- **2023H**   Tenure futures

- **2023I**   Housing quality and performance

- **2023J**   Incentivising small-scale investors to supply affordable housing

- **2023K**   Lived experience participation

- **2023L**   Data projects to inform housing and homelessness policy.

3.   Inquiries

2023A   Inquiry into governance, resourcing and objectives of Aboriginal housing support

Policy issue: Aboriginal housing support has undergone numerous changes in recent years.

What are the roles of government in supporting Aboriginal housing? How are these roles best resourced and maintained, and what is the long-term vision?

Context

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap has recently, for the first time, included housing among its 16 national socio-economic targets to improve life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Joint Council on Closing the Gap, and the sector strengthening plan, are important elements. The Aboriginal community housing sector is undergoing change, with sector peaks forming in many jurisdictions as well as nationally. There is a need for research to better inform the immediate, medium-term, and long-term objectives, as well as the long-term governance and resourcing plans.

Meanwhile, there is a widespread consensus on the need for greater self-determination in Aboriginal housing, but best practice approaches to enable, support and foster self-determination need further attention. This includes consideration of how to achieve self-determination in the delivery, allocation and design of community-controlled Aboriginal housing, as well as supporting greater empowerment of Aboriginal households.

There is also a need to understand the relative benefits of varying portfolio arrangements, such as Aboriginal community housing providers increasing their portfolios through Aboriginal community-owned housing or through government-owned portfolios. Similarly, an understanding of the implications of different land tenures, some of which are unique to Indigenous communities, and the impacts these have on housing provision, would be of benefit.

Notably each of these issues are likely to play out differently in remote locations and in regional and urban locations.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- examine the governance arrangements and objectives of the national agreement on Closing the Gap with respect to the long-term housing system objectives and future roles of governments

- consider best practice in enabling self-determination in Aboriginal housing provision and outcomes

- consider the relative merits of different approaches to the supply and management of Aboriginal housing

- examine the growth and development of Aboriginal housing peaks, their genesis, remit, ambition, and any gaps that remain to be addressed

- consider the impacts and respective mitigating factors for remote, regional and urban locations.

2023B   Inquiry into housing policy disaster preparedness and responsiveness

Policy issue: **There is an expectation that governments will lead disaster responses and are prepared when severe events disrupt life and communities. Events in recent years have highlighted the need for greater preparedness.**

What are the housing policy approaches to prevention, mitigation and preparedness for disasters, and how does housing policy contribute to disaster response and recovery? How should this be led, and how can stakeholders and critical actors be engaged and organised?

Context

The scale and severity of Australia's bushfires, floods, cyclones and other weather events, and their detrimental impacts on housing assets, have immediate and longer-term implications for the people affected, for local housing markets, and for housing policy responses.

There is an expectation that when disasters occur, communities are supported by disaster management plans that reflect forward thinking, including prevention and mitigation, and disaster preparedness. Effective crisis responses will involve coordinated relief, but also address longer-term recovery arrangements. Plans should balance the reduction of risk and the enhancement of community resilience. Disaster management stakeholders and critical actors must be ready and equipped to help the community with each of these phases.

One of the characteristics of disasters is that large numbers of people may be left homeless and may require prolonged temporary housing and other assistance. Rapid housing responses may be hampered by the emergency and physical circumstances, the absence of temporary or emergency accommodation and available local stock. Coordination between tiers of government, insurers, community sectors, critical actors and other stakeholders is critical.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- examine the preparedness of housing policy and programs to respond to disasters at local, state and national levels, as well as the coordination between agencies and critical actors

- review international best practice disaster management with a focus on housing and local communities

- consider the implications of insurance liability and cost, as well as planning code restrictions, in rebuilding housing in disaster-affected communities

- consider the implications of property rights and existing patterns of land ownership for strategic planning responses and the creation of more resilient settlement patterns through reconstruction programs

- examine the short and long-term responses to homelessness and the support for individuals and affected communities with regard to homelessness and resettlement.

4.   Investigative Panels

2023C   Investigative Panel on changing regional housing markets

Policy issue: **The disruption of COVID and changes associated with the pandemic have increased the focus on demographic shifts and opportunities for population growth in Australia's regions.**

What is the effect of this on regional housing markets and how is this being addressed?

Context

Infrastructure Australia[1] have stated that a transformational change is required to plan and deliver infrastructure across Australia, and that the disruption of the pandemic heralds change in the regions. There is considerable uncertainty and dramatically different impacts of growth across different regions. Areas with good connectivity to urban employment face quite different challenges to areas that are managing an increase in tourism or retirement populations. Other issues include changes to local industry, or threats from natural disasters and the need for greater preparedness.

Recent AHURI research examines the motivations of households in moving to regional locations, highlights differences in housing markets across regional Australia and explores the impact of growth in the housing markets of mid-sized cities.[2] Other recent AHURI research has examined how migration and agglomeration economies have also affected population growth in some regions.[3] Much of the data informing these research efforts was gathered before the pandemic and foreshadows change and emerging challenges and opportunities for regions.

This Investigative Panel examines how regions are preparing to meet these challenges. Best practice examples of regional responses to population and housing market pressure would be of interest.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- examine the trends in regional housing markets emerging since the end of the pandemic response of lockdowns and constraints on movement

- understand the pressures of tourism and current and planned responses to this

- understand the nature of demand in different markets and the impacts of this on the region

- consider the role of alternate supply chains in responding to supply chain constraints on residential construction

- explore the strategies of local governments, regional bodies and state and territory governments to address issues emerging through rapid population and housing market changes in Australia's regions.

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[1] Infrastructure Australia (2022) *Regional Strengths and Infrastructure Gaps*.
[2] Vij, A., Ardeshiri, A. et al. (2022) *Understanding what attracts new residents to smaller cities*, AHURI Final Report, No. 375.
[3] Leishman, C., Gurran, N. et al. (2021) *Inquiry into population, migration and agglomeration,* AHURI Final Report, No. 371.

2023D   Investigative panel on housing and Temporary Visa holders

Policy issue: Persons on Temporary Visas are a growing area of migration and housing demand, but precarity in migration status also has implications for precarity in housing and labour markets.

What is the experience of Temporary Visa holders of housing in Australia and what housing issues do they face?

Context

The number of overseas migrants on Temporary Visas in Australia increased markedly over several years prior to the pandemic. This was a significant change from historical patterns when Australia's immigration program was mainly focussed on permanent migration and citizenship. The number of Temporary Visa holders peaked at 2.4 million persons in December 2019. Although this number has been reduced during the pandemic period, there are indications that the number of Temporary Visa holders is growing again, reaching 1.7 million persons in February 2022,[1] and is expected to increase further in coming years.

Temporary Visa holders are diverse: they include international students, working holiday makers, and asylum seekers, among other categories, and come from a range of countries. They fill important gaps in Australia's labour force and can also help to address current and future skills needs. However, Temporary Visa holders are not eligible for social security payments and allowances, with the exception of the Special Benefit, for which some categories of Temporary Visa holders may be eligible while undergoing financial hardship.

Precarity in the migration status of Temporary Visa holders can translate to vulnerabilities in a range of other domains including work, health and housing.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- identify the characteristics of the housing that temporary migrants tend to access, and their household arrangements

- explore the housing experiences of temporary migrants, including issues they face in accessing and maintaining housing, security of tenure, housing quality, and affordability

- critically interrogate current service provision and gaps for Temporary Visa holders and migrants, including in relation to housing need and homelessness, and identify what needs to change to improve outcomes for this group

- estimate the costs of service provision to governments to address the housing needs of Temporary Visa holders.

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[1] Department of Home Affairs data https://data.gov.au/dataset/ds-dga-ab245863-4dea-4661-a334-71ee15937130/details?q=

2023E   Investigative panel on public administration of housing policy

Policy issue: **The administrative arrangements for housing and homelessness policy have been variable in Australian jurisdictions, with a wide range of arrangements implemented.**

What are the implications of administrative arrangements for housing policy development and prioritisation, service provision and client outcomes?

Context

Changing the way that the public sector is organised provides opportunities and challenges. 'Machinery of government' (MoG) changes, or administrative re-arrangements, describe decisions on the allocation of functions and responsibilities between government departments, agencies and ministers. These changes involve relatively few decision-makers and most often occur in the period immediately after a general election. MoG changes provide governments with the opportunity to re-order the Ministry and signal new priorities to the electorate and relevant sectors.

Public administration of housing policy in Australia has been subject to a wide range of administrative arrangements, including the positioning of housing policy within larger departments, split across distinct departments for asset management and tenant management, as separate statutory authorities (and as both separate authorities and branches of departments) and Trusts. When positioned within larger departments, housing has been nested variously with community or human services, health, public works, justice, Indigenous affairs, families, and more. Similarly, the Ministerial alignment of housing with other portfolios has varied substantially. The role of advisors in ministerial offices has become increasingly prominent, 'interposed between political decision-makers and neutral officials'.[1]

A key concern is the implication of public administration governance and stewardship arrangements in the objectives, framing and delivery of housing policy. The drivers of housing policy decisions and the ease of collaboration with other areas of government activity, stakeholders, and the channels of intra- and inter-government communication, including Commonwealth-state liaison, are not well mapped.

Opportunities

Researchers might:
- consider a historical perspective on how housing policy is made and administered, charting the overall direction of these MoG changes, the range of options, and the implications of different administrative arrangements

- identify drivers for different public administration arrangements, and how they are translated in service performance in terms of asset management, service delivery, and tenant outcomes

- consider the implications of public administrative governance on the framing of the housing assistance roles and responsibilities of the Commonwealth, states and local governments, and their respective departments and divisions.

Applicants please note that it is anticipated that the engagement of senior stakeholders for this Investigative Panel will be enhanced by the involvement of AHURI in the hosting and facilitation of panel meetings.

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[1] Althaus, C., Bridgman, P. et al. (2018) *The Australian Policy Handbook,* 6th edn.: 25.

5. Research projects

2023F   The paradigm shift in homelessness response

Policy issue: **Approaches to addressing the needs of people who experience chronic rough sleeping—a group who often experience high and complex needs—have changed in the context of the pandemic.**

What are the recent changes in service approaches to addressing chronic homelessness? What impact are those changes having, and what are the implications for future service responses?

Context

Chronic rough sleepers are a small but visible cohort of the homeless population, who often experience complex needs. The public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic saw assertive outreach programs where rough sleepers were housed rapidly, initially in vacant hotels, and subsequently (under a range of state programs) in rental accommodation with wrap-around support services.

In some ways, this response fast-tracked and scaled-up programs that states and territories had been piloting or developing already. Many state and local governments have developed or piloted person-centred and trauma-informed responses to chronic homelessness, often informed by a Housing First philosophy. This has sometimes been backed by measurable targets to significantly reduce homelessness, or to eliminate it.

Arguably, this constitutes a paradigm shift in the response to visible homelessness being taken by state and territory governments. Intended outcomes are ambitious; programs are designed to coordinate housing and support services, government agencies and other stakeholders are delivering coordinated responses, and the funding commitment is often substantial.

While jurisdictional evaluations are currently underway, there is a need for desktop analysis to consider the strategic alignment and sustainability of recent approaches, as well as learning from international experiences in homelessness response innovation during the pandemic.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- map the range of homelessness responses implemented since the beginning of the pandemic

- review the alignment of these responses with homelessness strategies

- compare Australian responses to rough sleeping in the pandemic with the responses implemented internationally

- consider the workforce implications of changes to, and rapid expansion of, homelessness services' sector roles and responsibilities

- consider how outreach programs have informed early intervention approaches that could have ongoing influence.

2023G   Making the case for social housing

Policy issue: **The social and economic benefits of social housing at individual, household, community and societal levels have been documented and demonstrated, but success in prosecuting the case with treasuries and central agencies for larger or sustained investments has been limited.**

What lessons can housing policy makers draw from other social policy domains to successfully make the case for long-term momentum in social housing investment?

Context

Recent announcements and programs from state and territory governments across the country have focussed on new social housing supply over the short term. There remains a need for larger scale and longer-term investment in social housing, beyond even the most ambitious of these announcements.

Housing policy makers have sought ways to demonstrate the value and co-benefits of government investment in social housing, including the broader societal benefits and cost-offsets from other government expenditure. Policy makers and those involved in the planning and development of housing have also used community engagement and visualisation approaches to demonstrate to communities how new social housing investments as well as renewal might make positive contributions to places and the built environment.

There remains a need for a clear and compelling case to be communicated for the economic, social and wider environmental benefits of social housing that can both capture public support and generate policy momentum. Other social policy areas have garnered public support in building their cases for policy reform or investment in recent years—there is an opportunity to consider the tactics that have led to this success.

It is important to consider the roles of the Australian Government on the one hand, and states and territories on the other, in social housing investment and how that impacts decision-making. In working with state and territory governments, it would also be beneficial to identify what can be learnt, both strategically and tactically, from existing programs to grow and renew social housing stock.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- review and articulate the arguments for the broader societal benefits and cost-offsets from other government departments of social housing

- identify the barriers (ideological, political, institutional, cultural) to bipartisan commitments to growing investment in social housing

- explore the role of public perception in government decision-making processes

- review tactics used in Australia and overseas to harness public engagement and policy support for investment in social policy issues that could translate to growth in social housing investment.

2023H   Tenure futures

Policy issue: Homeownership has been declining in Australia in recent years while private rental has been the main growth tenure.

What are the implications of these changes in tenure patterns for housing policy and the impacts on new supply and on households?

Context

AHURI recently[1] examined the future of homeownership in Australia and concluded that a return to the previous very high rates of widespread homeownership in Australia is unlikely. Instead, Australian housing policy needs to be reconceived as a 'two tenure system'.

A range of social policy outcomes (including retirement income policy, for example) are linked to the assumption of a high prevalence of homeownership. The implications of recent shifts in the changing balance of dominant tenures in Australia (owner-occupation and private rental) across diverse social and economic policy areas have not been considered extensively. The benefits of homeownership at a household and societal level need renewed examination.

There is a need to better understand the opportunities to leverage improved housing and other lifecycle outcomes for renters, including low- to moderate-income households, as well as long-term renters more broadly. This understanding would need to consider the cyclical and structural challenges in private rental systems, among other things.

An important consideration in this issue is the effectiveness of the various forms of private rental assistance.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- explore how housing policies might need to change to support renters in a 'two tenure' system, or a balanced approach to supporting multiple tenures

- model medium- and long-term projections of household income and tenure trends, including their impact on demand for housing and other assistance, and social housing need

- review the most effective interventions to assist lower income households in private housing markets

- examine how housing aspirations have been affected by the pandemic, and whether any impacts are lasting

- explore the social and economic benefits of homeownership for different household types and income cohorts.

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[1] Burke, T., Nygaard, C. et al. (2020) *Australian home ownership: past reflections, future directions,* AHURI Final Report, No. 328.

2023I   Housing quality and performance

Policy issue: Poor housing quality has adverse impacts on household health, budgets, and environmental performance. Policy and regulation have focussed on improving quality in the development of new housing; there is a need for attention on the performance of existing dwellings.

How should housing quality be defined and assessed? What are the policy, regulatory, financial and practical implications of implementing a nationally consistent higher minimum standard?

Context

Poor housing quality reflects poor design and historic low standards or requirements for environmental performance of building systems and components, as well as overuse or damage and lack of adequate maintenance. Poor quality can have adverse outcomes for household health and household energy costs and constrains the capacity to reduce carbon emissions at a societal level.

Lifting performance in this area is not just a matter of improving design standards and the build quality of new construction. While this is important, improving the performance of the many existing houses and apartments represents a far bigger challenge. It is also necessary to have reliable methods of documenting the material quality of housing outcomes so that progress can be monitored and assessed.

Improvements in environmental efficiency and health outcomes may or may not offset costs to government and households. Issues of regulatory oversight, compliance and cost effectiveness need consideration, as do the impacts on housing provision in social and private rental markets. Implications for long-term maintenance and the lifecycle of dwellings need to be understood.

There is considerable potential to learn from other countries already engaged in improving housing quality and what this might mean for Australian health, welfare, and environmental outcomes, as well as housing markets and provision.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- identify how policy and regulation are used currently to address housing quality outcomes, and how this could be improved

- articulate the implications for tenants, owner occupiers and landlords (public, social or private) of more extensive standards for existing dwellings, including health, costs, responsibilities and liabilities

- consider the resourcing implications for governments of policy development and regulatory reforms to address effective minimum standards of existing dwellings

- consider the impact of harsh climates (including in remote locations) on housing performance

- document best practice approaches overseas that might be adapted for Australia to drive improvements in housing quality, including regulatory and funding mechanisms.

2023J   Incentivising small-scale investors to supply affordable housing

Policy issue: Government housing strategies seek to address shortages of affordable private rental housing.

What schemes might best work in Australia to incentivise supply, provide durable and verifiable affordability for consumers, and deliver value-for-money improvements in social and economic outcomes for government?

Context

Incentivising supply of affordable private rental housing, targeted to those on low- to moderate-incomes remains a challenge. This includes affordable supply in both major cities and regional areas, as well as targeted opportunities for key workers. State and local housing strategies have often identified affordable housing as a key segment on the spectrum of housing policies.

While there has been considerable interest in recent years in large-scale investment in social and affordable housing and purpose-built rental accommodation, a substantial proportion of private rental stock is owned by small-scale investors (individual households).

Previous national schemes, such as the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS), sought to incentivise small-scale investment in new affordable housing supply using tax credits available over a 10-year period. However, the scheme was discontinued and much existing NRAS stock has been progressively exiting from affordability. Other initiatives—such as tax rules that allow small-scale landlords to lease out properties at a discounted rate and claim the gap in rental yield as a tax deduction (e.g. the HomeGround real estate model)—are also being established across the country but remain small in scale.

Reinvigorating activity in this area would require governments to design policies that are cost-effective at incentivising small-scale investors and landlords, provide tangible and durable affordability benefits for households who credibly need them, and have a demonstrable economic or social payoff to governments.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- consider the merits of schemes at different jurisdictional levels to improve supply of affordable rental housing by engaging with small-scale investors

- review and evaluate previous and existing affordable private rental housing schemes in Australia and internationally

- investigate the various roles of regulation, tax, and other program infrastructure necessary to contribute to successful program outcomes

- consider how strategies for home purchase and affordable rental can complement each other.

2023K   Lived experience participation

*Policy issue***: The engagement of people with lived experience of particular issues (e.g. mental health or disability) in service, program and policy design has potential to improve consumer experience, outcomes and the effectiveness of services.**

How might consumers' lived experience be best incorporated into the development of housing and homelessness policy and programs and the implementation of programs and services?

Context

The contribution of people with lived experience is increasingly valued in policy and program design, and there are examples in a range of service sectors of how lived experience participation is incorporated and well-practiced. The international literature demonstrates that lived experience participation engenders benefits at the individual, organisational, service, system and community levels. It has the potential to improve policy and program design and implementation and can lead to improved service outcomes.

However, research and evaluation focussed on lived experience participation has been based predominantly on other service sectors, rather than housing and homelessness experiences. There is no extensive understanding of how drawing on lived experience results in benefits, and how the voices of service users are best incorporated. Consequently, here is concern that this needs to be done systematically and with accountability to the service user.

Opportunities

Researchers might:

- examine leading examples of change in policy and practice resulting from lived experience participation and their impact on service sectors

- review leading examples of international practice of lived experience participation in housing and homelessness service and policy design, and their applicability to Australia

- consider how lived experience can best be included in housing and homelessness service and program design, and policy development.

2023L   Data projects to inform housing and homelessness policy

To support policy development in housing and homelessness, the AHURI NHRP has, over time, analysed systematically a range of key secondary datasets (e.g. AIHW, ABS, HILDA) to provide a series of fundamental statistics about housing and homelessness in Australia. New ways of understanding policy issues or ways of responding to questions of relevance for policy can be developed through research approaches using these datasets or incorporating new datasets as they become available.

As new data becomes available or datasets are updated, there is opportunity to update the understanding of an enduring policy issue, or to reveal new insights or findings to inform policy development.

New census data is very pertinent to this endeavour, with the *2021 Census of Population and Housing* data now available.

Increasingly, governments are providing access to Linked Data sets, which can also support the understanding of housing and homelessness issues. The Australian Government has implemented linked data ratings, based on the licensing, format and availability of data.[1]

AHURI provides a summary of data sources with the Funding Round documents providing an indication of available data sources of interest.

Data projects may include a national picture and comparisons across areas such as states and territories, and explore policy issues in relation to the following themes: affordable housing supply and tenure change in home ownership, private rental and social housing; the housing system; housing need; homelessness; Indigenous housing; urban and regional infrastructure and planning; housing and labour markets; housing finance; housing assistance; non-shelter outcomes; and demographics in relation to different housing need cohorts.

Applications for data projects should clearly demonstrate the policy issue, the policy development rationale for undertaking the data analysis, and a realistic and appropriate research approach. Applications must also demonstrate critical engagement with recent developments in methodology and awareness of the current policy and practice context.

The deliverables resulting from secondary data projects may be short reports focussed on the data analysis and its implications for policy development, may work more strongly with visuals and graphics and, it is expected, be submitted for peer review for publication in the AHURI Report series.

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[1] https://data.gov.au/page/linked-data-rating

6.   National Housing Research Program Funding Round 2023

The annual NHRP Funding Round opens with the publication of the *NHRP Research Agenda 2023* which calls for research funding applications.

The annual NHRP Funding Round 2023 capacity building component consists of one Scholarship Top-up for a postgraduate student at each AHURI Research Centre, and their attendance at the annual postgraduate symposium.

	Opening	Closing
NHRP Funding Round	Thursday 5 May 2022	Thursday 30 June 2022 12 noon AEST
Scholarship Top-up	Thursday 5 May 2022	Friday 28 April 2023 COB AEST