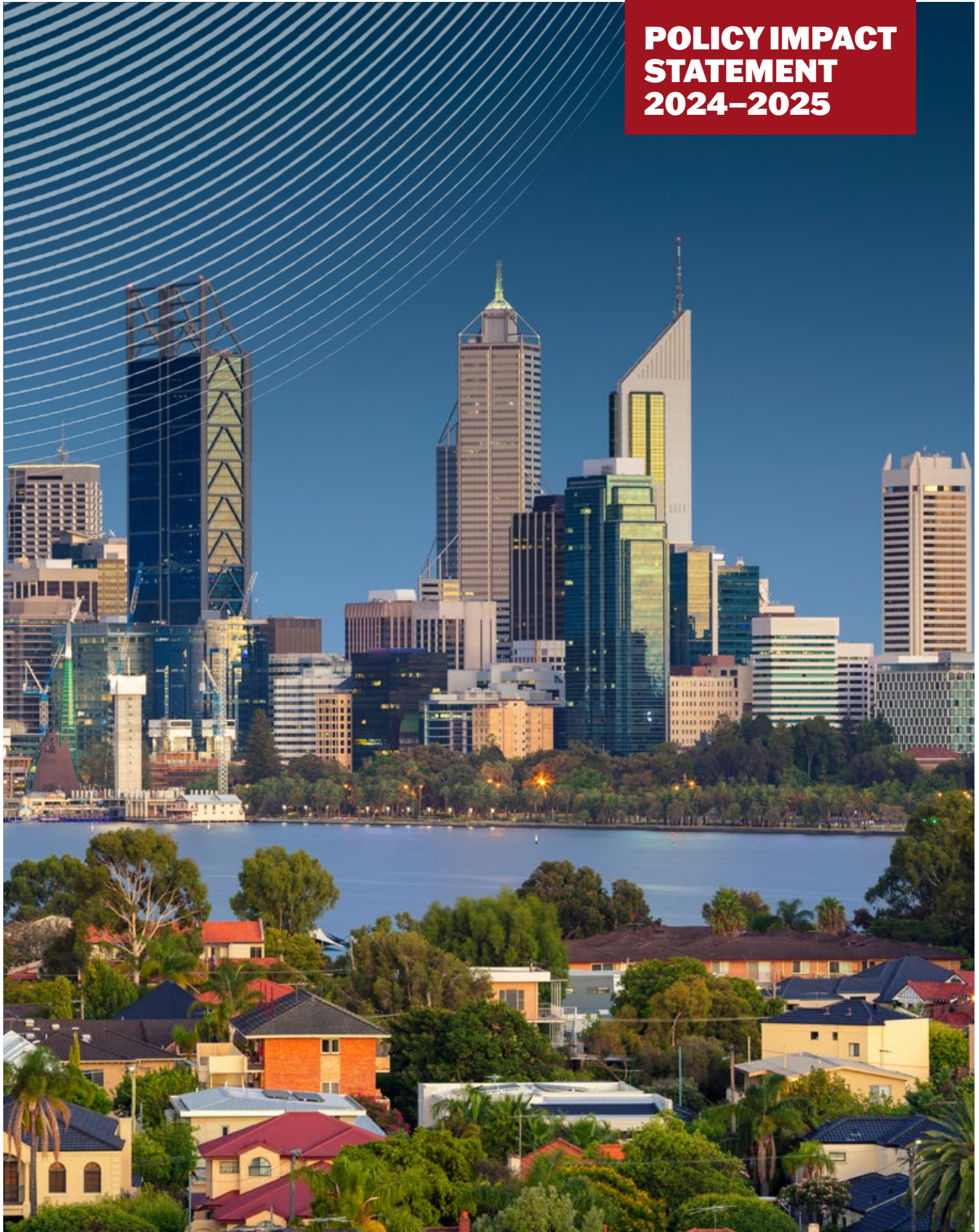




**POLICY IMPACT  
STATEMENT  
2024–2025**



# Our impact in 2024–25



Housing, homelessness and urban planning issues continued to dominate the public discourse in 2024–25. Governments, community and industry players across Australia

grappled with high construction costs, workforce shortages and long social housing waiting lists.

Housing was a central policy issue in the May 2025 Federal election, which saw strong media demand for AHURI analysis. Our research was increasingly cited by media, ensuring much of the public debate was underpinned by the latest evidence.

In 2024–25, AHURI published a number of timely research reports addressing issues, including the growth of long-term renting, the state of building quality in Australia, and the real affordability of housing beyond the rent or mortgage price alone. Our two Inquiries provided fresh evidence to support much needed generational investment in social housing, and to assist governments and industry to match supply of new homes to population growth.

Our Professional Services team provided expert advice and research support to a range of clients. Highlights included creating a measurement framework to monitor anticipated displacement in South East Queensland ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics, as well as curating an informative exhibition showcasing innovative public housing design.

The Australian Homelessness Conference, convened by AHURI with the South Australia Government as host state partner, again attracted a strong national audience, collaborating with the shared goal of ending homelessness. AHURI webinars examining topics including forever renting and Australian building quality enjoyed increasing popularity over the year, with most reaching full capacity.

We were delighted to welcome Queensland University of Technology on board as a new research partner. Our strong national research network, longstanding partnerships with federal and state/territory governments, and sector engagement underpin our mission to deliver high quality evidence to improve housing and urban outcomes for all Australians.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Fotheringham'.

Dr Michael Fotheringham  
Managing Director

---

AHURI acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout our nation, and we pay our respect to Elders past and present. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connections to land, sea and community, and respect their cultural, spiritual and educational practices.

# Policy impact highlights

AHURI is an independent for-purpose research organisation that conducts high quality evidence on housing, homelessness and cities. Our activities inform the policies and practices of Australian governments, industry and the community sector, and stimulate public debate.

## Impact snapshot



21

reports  
published



8

AHURI  
Briefs



4,508

conference and  
webinar delegates



5,062

media  
mentions



3,473

average views of  
each report



409,282

visits to AHURI  
website



4,692

views of webinar  
and conference  
recordings



16,496

social media  
followers

## Policy advice

AHURI representatives sit on more than 18 ministerial, government and public sector advisory bodies providing direct policy advice to Federal, state and territory Ministers, agencies and sector leadership bodies. This includes the National Urban Policy Forum (Federal Minister for Cities), Housing Supply Expert Panel (Queensland Minister for Housing), and the Ministerial Homelessness Reform Advisory Group (Victorian Minister for Housing and Homelessness).

As well as providing direct advice to key policy decision makers, AHURI also contributed submissions and testimony to a range of government inquiries, including:

- the Federal Government's Senate Economics Legislation Committee's inquiry into Help to Buy
- the Parliament of South Australia's Select Committee on Short Stay Accommodation Sector
- the Victorian Legislative Assembly Environment and Planning Committee's Inquiry into the supply of homes in regional Victoria
- the Victorian Parliament's Select Committee on Victoria Planning Provisions Amendments.

"AHURI is the critical source for high quality research focused on all facets of the Australian housing system. I note that officers within the Department for Housing and Urban Development regularly draw on AHURI research to contribute to policy development."

– Hon Nick Champion MP  
Minister for Housing and  
Urban Development, SA  
Government



# Research

AHURI delivered high quality peer-reviewed research on a broad range of housing, homelessness, cities and urban issues.

## National Housing Research Program highlights

### Final Inquiry Reports

#### Inquiry into socially supported housing pathways

Four research projects conducted as part of this Inquiry examined how to change Australia's housing assistance system into one that supports 'housing pathways'. The Final Report offered options for how governments could re-imagine the social housing system and transform social housing assistance.

#### Inquiry into projecting Australia's urban and regional futures: population dynamics, regional mobility and planning responses

This research Inquiry investigated ways to predict and support local population growth and change, and what drives people to move between urban and regional Australia. The Final Report explored what this migration means for planning infrastructure and housing.

"The NHRP is an important mechanism to deliver timely and relevant research and to assist in a greater understanding of issues in the housing and homelessness space."

Hon Felix Ellis MP  
Minister for Housing,  
Planning and Consumer  
Affairs, Tasmanian  
Government

### Most viewed & most downloaded reports\*



**Planning for a two-tenure future**

**Views: 6,498**

**Downloads: 2,061**



**A national roadmap for improving the building quality of Australian housing stock**

**Views: 5,760**

**Downloads: 1,262**



**Indigenous housing support in Australia: the lay of the land**

**Views: 5,745**

**Downloads: 1,160**

### Most media mentions



**Modelling landlord behaviour and its impact on rental affordability: insights across two decades**

**Media mentions: 783**

\*published in 2024/25



## National Cities Research Program

AHURI's self-funded investment in a National Cities Research Program delivered its fifth report in 2024–25.

### Voicing First Nations Country, culture and community in urban policy

The research found current approaches to engaging First Nations peoples in urban policy and planning are placing an unreasonable and unsustainable burden on Traditional Custodians. It argued a change of relationship with First Nation Traditional Custodians and a rethinking of current engagement approaches could create a more responsible process.

# Events

In 2024–25, AHURI hosted a national 2-day conference and 5 webinars that brought together researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

## Australian Homelessness Conference

Adelaide, 13-14 August 2024

The 2024 Australian Homelessness Conference: Gathering Momentum brought together people with a shared goal to end homelessness. The 2-day program featured the latest research, leading policy ideas, and best practice examples of homelessness service provision in Australia and internationally.

“the content was very empowering, a step-to-step guide on helping your community”

Attendee: Australian Homelessness Conference



781

delegates



113

speakers



24

sessions

“Great opportunity to learn about the latest research outcomes in this critical area. Appreciated the reframing of the renting issue — seeing it in a more positive mindset”

Attendee: Forever renting: a new reality for the Australian Dream webinar

## AHURI webinar series

Highest webinar engagement

Hidden costs: measuring the real affordability of housing



Delegates: 500



Recording views: 410

Webinar audience satisfaction



Insightful



Relevant



Would recommend to a colleague



# Professional Services

AHURI's consulting team worked closely with governments and the not-for-profit and community sectors to provide evidence for policy impact and evaluation.

## Program evaluation

AHURI Professional Services undertook several evaluations in 2024–25.

- The **Community Housing Futures Program** aims to enhance the capacity and capability of community housing providers in Queensland. AHURI completed an evaluation of the program for Q Shelter in 2025.
- **Make Room** provides secure supportive housing for people experiencing rough sleeping or chronic homelessness in the City of Melbourne. AHURI's evaluation of Make Room is assessing the impact of the project for residents, the community and neighbourhood. The first phase was delivered in 2025, with the next phase commencing in 2026.
- The Interim Evaluation of the **Foyer Central** in Sydney for Uniting NSW assessed the model and practice approach to evaluate its effectiveness and improve outcomes for young people and inform ongoing practice development.

## Policy evidence and advisory services

This year, AHURI Professional Services delivered several projects to support important policy and strategic initiatives. Highlights include the following.

- The **South East Queensland Displacement Monitoring** project for QShelter developed a framework to measure potential displacement in South East Queensland, caused by anticipated changes in housing market conditions leading up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Monitoring will continue annually to 2032.
- Professional Services worked closely with Uniting Vic.Tas to develop a feasibility study and manual for **Youth Housing First models** in Victoria's Central Highlands Area.
- Together with Equity Economics, Professional Services undertook a rapid review of **youth housing and homelessness programs and services** to support the Australian Government Department of Social Services policy development processes.

## Urban design

- Funded by the Alistair Swayn Foundation, and delivered by AHURI Professional Services, **Designing Australia's Public Housing** is an exhibition and research project that examines a century of innovation and leadership in Australia's public housing design. The report showcases new ideas in urban form, experiments with density, and innovations in construction that were a feature of twentieth century public housing provision. It identifies principles to help guide investment and procurement decisions for social housing today.



# Partners and supporters

## University partners



“The announcement that the Queensland University of Technology has recently become a member of the AHURI network in 2025 is welcomed by the Queensland Government...we look forward to more research projects having focus on the housing requirements of Queenslanders in the future.”

Sam O'Connor MP,  
Minister for Housing and  
Public Works, Minister  
for Youth, Queensland  
Government

## Event partners







**Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute**

Level 12, 460 Bourke Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

Australia


+61 3 9660 2300

[information@ahuri.edu.au](mailto:information@ahuri.edu.au)

[ahuri.edu.au](http://ahuri.edu.au)

 [Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ahuri-research/)

 [facebook.com/AHURI.AUS](https://www.facebook.com/AHURI.AUS)

 [instagram.com/ahuri\\_research/](https://www.instagram.com/ahuri_research/)