

## **ARBIB'S HOUSING OVERHAUL WELCOMES**

Wednesday, 16 March, 2011

Media release: National Shelter

National Shelter welcomes the Federal Government's direction to overhaul the nation's public housing system.

The overhaul, announced today by Senator Mark Arbib, argues that the current system is financially unsustainable.

In his address, Senator Arbib calls for a radically altered way of funding and managing public housing.

National Shelter's Chairperson, Adrian Pisarski, says the overhaul is a great opportunity, and should be the focus of the next National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA).

"There is definitely a need for a fresh approach towards funding affordable housing in Australia."

"I encourage the Commonwealth and States to use the upcoming negotiations for a new NAHA to explore new directions.

Mr Pisarski says the National Tax Forum is another opportunity to consider how Australian housing can be improved.

"The focus should be on a sustainable, affordable housing agreement with growth at its core to meet anticipated demand."

National Shelter recommends the National Shelter policy platform and the work of the Affordable Housing Summit Group as the basis for a new agreement.