



# eNews 2014

Peak Body for Housing and Homelessness

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**NPAH CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2014

## Time is Running Out for Services - Please Support the Campaign to Extend NPAH Funding!

The National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) will expire at the **end of June 2014**. As yet, funding still has not been allocated to continue the agreement, nor any process by which organisations can work with Government on how to continue to meet the needs of clients. If it is not extended, NPAH-funded programs all over Australia, including many vital services in Tasmania will be at risk.

Prime Minister Abbott, when questioned about the NPAH on Perth radio two weeks ago said, "I think there is no need to be agitated on this. Come Budget night all will be revealed and I think people will be happy." The Minister for Social Services, Kevin Andrews, has since echoed the Prime Ministers words.

There are less than 50 days left until Budget night –but this is too late for homelessness services, as by next week some services will have to start notifying staff of impending closure. If there is no guarantee of funding, hundreds of vulnerable Tasmanians, their services and specialist staff will all be at risk.

Shelter Tasmania, Homelessness Australia and other housing and homelessness peak bodies are still campaigning for this funding to be renewed, and it's not too late for you to help us to lobby for this very important cause.

You can help by writing directly to candidates, local members, or the Minister for Social Services, Kevin Andrews; requesting extended NPAH funding.

There are a number of helpful resources on the Shelter Tas website, which will provide the information you will need to join the campaign:

- Homelessness Australia's [letter template](#)
- Shelter Tas' [factsheet](#), providing background information on the NPAH
- [Letter from Shelter Tas to Kevin Andrews](#), urging the Federal Government to continue the NPAH funding.

In addition, Homelessness Australia have created an image to be used on social media, which Shelter Tas have shared on both [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). We would appreciate it if you could do the same, either by posting the image yourself or sharing via our channels.

Contact Executive Officer, Pattie Chugg on 0419 536 100 or at [eo@shelertas.org.au](mailto:eo@shelertas.org.au) if you have any questions, or would like more information on NPAH funding and the possible effect on clients and staff if the funding ceases.