

Community Housing Industry Council

Communique

Meeting 11, 24 March 2022

The New South Wales (NSW) Community Housing Industry Council (CHIC) had its eleventh meeting on 24 March 2022.

The CHIC continued its work developing the Community Housing Industry Strategy (the Strategy). Further consultation on the draft Strategy was undertaken with members representing the Aboriginal community housing sector, AHO and ACHIA. Amendments were suggested which will help ensure better integration of the priorities of, and issues facing, the Aboriginal housing sector in the Strategy. These amendments were approved by the CHIC. The Strategy is now ready for its final distribution to CHIC members to seek endorsement, after which it will be progressed to the DCJ Secretary for approval.

The CHIC membership now includes the Chief Executive Officer from Aboriginal CHIA as the second ACHIA representative on the CHIC. As ACHIA has continued to build its organisation as the peak body for the Aboriginal community housing sector, it was considered timely to expand its representation on the CHIC. This aligns ACHIA's membership on the CHIC more closely with CHIA NSW's membership, which is represented by its CEO and two Board members. It will also help to ensure that the priorities of the Aboriginal community housing sector are always considered in CHIC business.

The AHO presented to the CHIC on Sector Development and the Property Management Transfers that are currently underway. This gave great insight to how the AHO and DCJ can work collaboratively to deliver key priorities and ensure capacity building of the Aboriginal community housing sector. An additional presentation by ACHIA on Closing the Gap was postponed to the June CHIC meeting.

CHIC members were advised that the Community Housing Partnerships Framework and Guidance Notes have been submitted to the Secretary DCJ for approval to publish. Once endorsed, these will be circulated to all parties engaged in procurement and contracting in the government and community housing sectors. As the documents are non-binding, their use is recommended but not compulsory.

A very robust discussion was undertaken by CHIC members regarding the current CHIC work plan. This plan guides and reaffirms the CHIC's priorities and projects it will work on during the current term. An updated version of the CHIC work plan 2021-23 will be circulated to members out of session and once endorsed it will be progressed to the DCJ Secretary.

The next CHIC meeting is scheduled for 16 June 2022.