

## Media release

Wednesday, 6 August 2025

CEO Eleri Morgan-Thomas

### **Delivering better housing support for Tasmanians**

Homes Tasmania is improving the services available for people who need housing assistance.

Homes Tasmania CEO Eleri Morgan-Thomas said every Tasmanian deserved a roof over their head and that Homes Tasmania was committed to delivering more housing opportunities for Tasmanians facing homelessness, during Homelessness Week, and every week of the year.

“We are working to improve the entire housing system because we want all Tasmanians to have a place to call home,” Ms Morgan-Thomas said.

“A major focus is delivering more social housing because we know that it provides the foundation people to make connections, achieve their ambitions and live a good life.

“And our housing delivery program is working, with the *Housing Assistance in Australia 2025* report showing that during 2023-24, we completed 493 new social housing units, which meant we were able to provide homes for an additional 821 people across 409 households.

“The report also shows that 6.2 per cent of Tasmanian households living in social housing as at 30 June 2024 – up 0.2 per cent over the year – which is well above the national average of 4.1 per cent.”

Ms Morgan-Thomas said improvements to Housing Connect now meant that people needing assistance would be connected to the most appropriate services using new ways of delivering housing support that have a proven track record.

“Housing Connect is delivering better outcomes for people facing homelessness because support is now shaped for each person’s circumstances and life stage, to help people build their capabilities and plan and achieve their goals,” Ms Morgan-Thomas said.

Ms Morgan-Thomas said Homes Tasmania was particularly focused on providing housing assistance to young Tasmanians.

“We know that experiencing or facing homelessness when you are young increases your likelihood of facing homelessness later in life, which is why it is important that we provide targeted help and assistance that we know will help our young people during this critical time in their lives,” Ms Morgan-Thomas said.

“Our Youth2Independence (Y2I) program is based on the successful international Education First Youth Foyer program, and we know this program improves young people’s lives.

“Y2I provides accommodation, support, and access to education and employment for more than 200 young Tasmanians, helping them realise their ambitions and create a bright future for themselves.

“We are also increasing affordability in the private rental market with incentives for 300 additional private rentals now available to property owners, increasing the supply of affordable housing across the state.

“Homes Tasmania funds over \$50 million annually to support the operation of Specialist Homelessness Services and 20 homeless shelters across the state, with 10 of these shelters dedicated to unaccompanied young people, including two shelters for children and young people aged 16 years or under.”

Anyone in need of housing assistance is encouraged to contact Housing Connect on 1800 800 588.

Homelessness Week is a national event that aims to raise awareness for people facing homelessness and the actions needed to achieve lasting solutions. This year it is being recognised between Monday, 4 August and Sunday, 10 August.

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