

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ADDRESSING THE HOUSING CRISIS

### Commitment sought

**\$100 million per year** over four years for a local government-specific grant program to help councils facilitate the delivery of affordable and social housing in their communities.

### What is the issue?

Australia is facing an affordable housing crisis, with a shortage of affordable rental housing stock and lower rates of home ownership.

### Why does it matter?

The lack of affordable housing is having significant social and economic impacts in cities and towns across Australia, including in regional and rural communities.

### Additional information

Housing supply and affordability is still one of the highest priority challenges facing Australians, and local governments report this as a crisis in our communities across the country. It affects local productivity as key workers cannot reside in areas with high housing costs and impacts on the ability of councils to recruit employees and to attract and retain key workers to communities.

While local governments do not have prime responsibility for providing housing, we do play a critical role in facilitating housing in our communities.

The housing challenge is different in every community and so the type of support needed will vary across the country.

Consequently, there is no one-size-fits-all solution to the housing challenges currently being experienced.

*ALGA is committed to working with the Government to address this issue and is a signatory to the Housing Accord announced in October 2022, which plans to deliver one million new homes for Australians.*

ALGA is seeking funding that will support councils to undertake a range of activities to support additional housing in their communities including:

- Land audits;
- Housing assessments;
- Partnership development;
- Preparation of business cases for construction;
- Development of innovative models for housing construction;
- Research and development funding for innovative housing models; and
- Community engagement and awareness campaigns.

We are also seeking:

- The development of a national affordable housing strategy;
- Funding that will support councils to invest in essential engineering and community infrastructure to support the construction of one million new homes from 2024; and
- Further investment by all levels of government and the private sector in affordable and social housing, particularly rental housing.

