

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2

Question No: 49

Topic: Social Housing

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Payne asked:

Given the enormous impact reforms will have on the community housing sector, what plans do they have for engaging with the sector to ensure that these reforms will not adversely affect community housing organisations (or their tenants)?

Answer:

Under the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA), the Australian Government is responsible for providing financial assistance for the provision of social housing to the states and territories.

Under this agreement the state and territory governments are responsible for the management and delivery of social housing. These responsibilities include the rent setting policies of each state and territory government and the ongoing consultation and engagement with the sector through peak body representatives.

State and territory governments therefore set the schedule for community consultation in relation to reforms that affect the community housing sector. In each state and territory funding is allocated to peak body organisations to represent, engage and support the community housing sector.