

## **Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria**

Mr David Evans

**Organisation Name:**

**Your position or role:**

### **SURVEY QUESTIONS**

**Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this inquiry into homelessness to consider::**

Rough sleeping,Public housing,Employment,Family violence,Services,Housing affordability,Indigenous people,Mental health

**What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :**

Concerned citizen

**Are there any additional themes we should consider?**

Privatisation of public housing. Social housing. Commodification of houses.

### **YOUR SUBMISSION**

**Submission:**

**Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:**

### **FILE ATTACHMENTS**

**File1:** [5e61f3b48a597-Homelessness Inquiry Submission.odt](#)

**File2:** [5e61f3b48af6b-Homelessness Inquiry Submission.doc](#)

**File3:**

**Signature:**

David Evans

Shelter, food and water are our most basic needs. Without shelter the other two needs are even more difficult to meet.

Over the last decade the visible signs of homelessness (rough sleepers) have become much more prevalent both in the city, suburbs and regional areas.

The role of government should be to look after the people. Rising homelessness means they are failing at this role. The government should make sure that more public housing be made available. Public housing is housing that is owned by the public. It should not be commodified to make a profit for private interests.

Public housing should be an option for all Australians who cannot afford to access housing in the private market place not just those who are destitute and homeless.

The housing crisis will be exacerbated by Labor's plan to further privatise public housing

Use Victorian stamp duty revenue (6 billion dollars plus per year) to purchase houses in order to end homelessness. The government needs to increase public housing rather than outsource their responsibility as social housing. The Hon Richard Wynne MP has said that the stamp duty revenue cannot be used to “creat[e] new public housing stock” as it “plays an important role in funding core government services.” What is more important? Infrastructure projects that affect some Victorians or ending homelessness that affects all of us?

Increasing the supply of public housing will cause downward pressure on rents. When people spend less on rent they can spend more on other things such as food (which is a further pressing issue) and other consumer items. Increased spending is good for the economy.

Homelessness moves people to the margins of economic life. The increasing incidence of homelessness thus has a negative impact on the economy as less people participate economic life.

If the government chooses to continue with policies that move public housing into private hands these problems will worsen not improve. Ending homelessness and improving housing security will benefit all Victorians.