

6.6 EVERYBODY'S HOME CAMPAIGN

Submitting Councillor: Cr. Josh Fergeus

MOTION

That Council signs up to the 'Everybody's Home' Campaign as a campaign partner.

INTRODUCTION

A coalition of housing, homelessness and welfare organisations have developed a research-based advocacy campaign of housing solutions to address the dire state of the housing market and enable every Australian to be appropriately housed. This campaign is designed to mobilise the combined strength of the community and housing sectors, and other allies to ensure that housing affordability is at the center of the debate in the upcoming federal election. The more organisations who join, the greater the impact will be.

DISCUSSION

The campaign is based on the fact that from people wanting to buy their very first house, to others struggling to just secure a safe roof over their heads, the Australian Housing system is not working for everyone.

The key messages of the 'Everybody's Home' campaign are;

- Inflated house prices and a taxation system focused on capital gains and property investment is locking a generation out of home ownership and creating more renters;
- Growing competition for rental properties are causing rents to skyrocket, so every-day workers can no longer afford to rent ordinary homes and don't have the security they need;
- With more and more people struggling to afford the private rental market, the demand for affordable or social rental properties is outstripping supply; and
- A chronic shortage of social and affordable housing is forcing record levels of homelessness.

Housing affordability is now a top tier political issue and this campaign provides the sector with an opportunity to put rental affordability clearly into the public debate and ensure housing solutions are adopted that meet the needs of low and middle income Australians.

The campaign has attracted support from a large and diverse range of support services and organisations including but not limited to; the Brotherhood of St Lawrence, Salvation Army, Sacred Heart Mission, Anglicare Australia, City of Melton, City of Greater Dandenong and City of Ballarat.

Council is an active member of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA). These campaign messages align with the advocacy work that EAHA is about to commence in the lead up to the federal election.

CONCLUSION

Monash Council has an important role in continuing to advocate to Federal Government to find a solutions to housing affordability. Joining as a campaign partner, along with other peak organisations, is another way to demonstrate Councils support for affordable housing solutions.