

Annual  
report  
2008-09

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# Contents

---

What we do 5

Who we are 6

Chairperson's report 7

Executive Officer's report 9

Treasurer's report 11

Report on activities 12

Summary of Shelter NSW activities 22

Financial report 23



# What we do

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## About us

Shelter NSW is a non-government, non-profit, social change agency committed to working for a fair and just housing system.

Shelter NSW advocates for the housing interests of low-income and disadvantaged people, and provides community education to build the capacity of non-profit organisations to provide housing and housing-related services.

## History

Shelter NSW was established in 1975. We have advocated and campaigned for public housing and the development of community-based initiatives like tenant-managed housing, cooperatives, community-based housing associations and local government planning innovations that provide for affordable housing.

## Purpose

Shelter NSW's mission is to work for a fair and just housing system. We promote the housing interests of low-income and disadvantaged people in New South Wales.

Our role is to:

- ▶ advocate for systemic change;
- ▶ provide community education.

In undertaking these roles, we use a number of strategies:

- ▶ research;
- ▶ policy development;
- ▶ providing educational products on key housing issues;
- ▶ networking and partnering with other nonprofit non-government organisations and consumer organisations;
- ▶ promoting a coordinated response from within the non-government sector where appropriate.

In working towards a fair and just housing system, we are committed to:

- ▶ building the capacity of non-profit housing and housing-related services;
- ▶ working with housing consumer organisations and activists.

# Who we are

## Board members

### Executive:

Chairperson: Andrew Meehan  
Treasurer: Warren Gardiner  
Secretary: Sue Cripps

### Directors:

Grant Arbuthnot  
Melinda Hewitt  
Maureen Kingshott  
Garry Mallard, OAM  
Annette O'Neill  
Dean Price  
Bill Randolph  
Judy Singer  
Judy Stubbs  
Terry Wilson

## Contractors, consultants and auditor

### Contractors:

Kirsty McEwin (editing)  
Not Just Networks Pty. Ltd. (IT)  
Peirce Munro Pty. Ltd. (accounting)

### Consultants:

Nicole Gurrán  
Peter Phibbs  
Jon Eastgate

### Auditor:

Churton Kelly

## Staff

### Executive Officer:

Mary Perkins

### Principal Policy Officer:

Craig Johnston

### Senior Policy Officer (Education and Outreach):

Paula Rix

### Policy Officer (Research and Publications):

Katie Florance

### Office Administrator:

Sumi Krishnamoorthy (until 15 September  
2008)  
Yana Myronenko (after 15 September 2008)



Board member Garry Mallard received an Order of Australia Medal in 2009.

# Chairperson's report

This past year has been an extraordinary year for housing policy, and as a result, a busy year for Shelter NSW. Following the considerable policy changes flowing from the 2007 federal election, the global financial crisis forced the hand of government to make an unprecedented investment in social housing.

The \$6.7 billion injection of funds was part of the Commonwealth Government's economic stimulus package designed to stave off recession. As such, it was an economic policy designed to prop up the construction industry and avoid a collapse in the housing industry - a key driver in the US economy's collapse.

Of course, it was also a welcome and long overdue investment in social housing, promising the delivery of some 20,000 new social housing homes, and one that might not have occurred had the policy options, long lobbied for by National Shelter and many others, not been on the table.

With federal policy shaping the NSW housing system in such an unprecedented way, maintaining and building on our engagement on federal policy issues was, and remains, an ongoing priority for the organisation. Along with our involvement in, and support for, National Shelter, we have continued to develop a productive working relationship with the Commonwealth Minister for Housing, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP. The Minister attended and spoke at our last annual general meeting, was a keynote speaker at our conference alongside the NSW Minister for Housing, the Hon. David Borger, MP, and regularly engaged with the organisation throughout the year, seeking our views on a range of policy issues.

At the state level, the implementation of the federal policy framework presented some significant challenges along with the opportunities to expand supply. In particular, to have a stimulatory effect on the economy, the timeframe for delivering the new homes was extremely short. A key focus of our lobbying at a

state level has therefore been on issues relating to the implementation of stimulus and other federal policies to ensure as far as possible that some of the mistakes of the past - poorly built, expensive to maintain, poorly located, or inappropriate housing stock - were not repeated. We enjoy a constructive relationship with the NSW Minister for Housing, and the Director-General of Housing NSW, Mike Allen. We will continue to work with both to ensure the best possible outcomes from investment in affordable housing.

Within Shelter, a number of activities are worth highlighting. This was the first full year of working to a re-focussed strategic plan. The plan was developed to frame our work to proactively identify policy issues and change projects, while maintaining our capacity to respond to emerging issues. High quality briefing papers were developed by staff on issues identified as possible Shelter change projects. These will continue to inform the policy positions and the work that Shelter takes on into the future.

It is worth highlighting one area of work that I think reflects the efforts that have been made at building relationships and being at the forefront of housing policy thinking in New South Wales, and through our involvement in National Shelter, at a national level. The conference, 'The crisis and beyond: for a stronger and fairer housing system', was our most successful conference to date, attracting over 235 attendees, encompassing leading housing academics, housing providers, representatives from governments and government agencies, and most importantly, a large number of social housing tenants.

Within the organisation, I am pleased to report that the Shelter staff and Board have negotiated a new industrial agreement that is now being lodged with the NSW Industrial Relations Commission. I believe the agreement better reflects the expertise and work of staff both in salary and conditions. On behalf of the Board, I thank the staff for their approach to discussions

with the Board on the agreement, which I think helped further cement our good working relationship.

There are a number of people and organisations that need to be thanked for their support of the organisation throughout the year.

Most of Shelter's funding comes from Housing NSW. My sincere thanks go to the NSW Minister for Housing, the Director-General of Housing NSW, Mike Allen, and Housing NSW staff for their ongoing support.

I also thank the Commonwealth Minister for Housing for her willingness to engage with the organisation and seek policy input.

This year will see the retirement of a number of Board members and the subsequent appointment of new directors. I would like to thank the retiring Board members for their contribution to what I think has been very strategic and productive 12 months of work on the Board. I would also like to thank all of my colleagues on the Board for their contribution and efforts throughout the year.

Among those leaving the Board, one person requires particular mention, not only for his contribution to the Board and organisation (which was substantial) and to the wider affordable housing sector (for which he is well known), but for his remarkable achievement this year.

In June Garry Mallard was recognised for his tireless contribution to the social housing field and awarded an Order of Australia. As many of you will know Garry is the Coordinator of the National Tenant Support Network which provides a valuable service not only to tenants, but to housing professionals, policy makers, academics and virtually anyone with an interest in affordable housing. He is extremely active in a range of fora related to social housing, the Shelter Board being just one. On behalf of the Board, staff and members of Shelter NSW I warmly congratulate Garry for this outstanding achievement and well-deserved recognition. I'm sure he will continue to play an important role in improving the social housing system after retiring from the Shelter Board.

Shelter has seen one new staff member appointed this year. I would like to welcome Yana Myronenko who was appointed as Office Administrator.

On behalf of the Board and members, I would like to thank all the staff for their tireless work throughout the year. They have covered a huge brief, particularly given the unprecedented policy developments this year. They have worked to what was an ambitious work plan and done so professionally and in many areas surpassed expectations.

Special thanks are due to the Executive Officer, Mary Perkins, for her leadership of the organisation and support of the Executive and Board. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank Shelter members for their ongoing support.

On a personal note, as I am stepping down from the Board this year, I wish to thank all those I've worked with over the past four years while I've been on the Board. It has been a privilege to serve on the Board of such a terrific and highly-regarded organisation. I look forward to watching (from a short distance) the great work that Shelter does in fighting for a fair and just housing system into the future.

Andrew Meehan

Chairperson

# Executive Officer's report

Last year featured a suite of potential positive changes in our housing system.

For a long time Shelter NSW has identified the supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households as the crucial issue that must be addressed as a pre-requisite to other social programs (education and health are prime examples). It is clear that the effectiveness of a number of social programs is limited if people don't have housing - that they can afford, that is suitable to their needs and that is in a location that enables access to jobs, schools and a range of services. It is also clear that our housing system is unable to meet the level of need in the community. The social housing system is now essentially a welfare housing system accessible to the very poor and those with complex needs. In the private market, house-price inflation has created significant difficulties for new homeowners, and a shortage of housing stock and high prices has meant that the private rental market is also out of reach for many low-income households.

The election of the Rudd Labor government created new opportunities for Shelter to further its objectives. We welcomed its commitment to addressing homelessness and housing problems. During the last year we have worked to influence the new policies and programs. At both state and national levels, Shelter advocated for an increased supply of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households. At the national level we have continued work

with National Shelter, the National Affordable Housing Summit Group and the Australian Council of Social Service. In the lead-up to the new National Affordable Housing Agreement we were aware that many people including parliamentarians only see and hear the negative views of our social housing system and we wanted to ensure that the new agreement shaped a future where the housing needs of low-income households were adequately addressed. Our advocacy involved coordinating a national letter-writing campaign to inform parliamentarians of community support for our objectives. We also participated in a National Housing Advocacy Day on 28 September 2008 where a large number of organisations and tenants lobbied the parliament.

The new government's policies address many of our concerns; in particular the National Rental Assistance Scheme and the A Place to Call Home program are new initiatives with new additional dollars attached. However, we remain concerned that the sustainability and need for growth in our social housing system are problems that have not been adequately addressed in the new National Affordable Housing Agreement. The agreement created a new framework but



provided funding that was well short of what's needed. However in February in response to the economic crisis the Commonwealth Government announced a Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan that included a much needed boost to the supply of social housing. We welcomed this and noted that this was the sort of commitment needed on an ongoing basis, rather than as a one-off emergency measure.

While many of the solutions to our housing problems lie with the Commonwealth Government, this is not to mean that the state government can be let off the hook. Throughout the year Shelter advocated for changes to the planning system hoping to enhance its capacity to contribute to the supply of affordable housing. We have also lobbied the NSW Government to make a commitment to the National Rental Affordability Scheme. This program requires matching of Commonwealth and state subsidies to encourage investment in the supply of affordable housing. New South Wales limited its commitment to the implementation stage only, and given that this program is the only ongoing Commonwealth commitment to increasing supply (the economic stimulus is only a short-term measure), we were concerned that New South Wales not miss this opportunity.

It is clear that within the general community and among workers in many community agencies there is not always a good understanding of the crisis within our housing system. Many people seriously believe that Housing NSW has property that it is simply not allocating to their family or friends or clients. Over the last 10 to 15 years governments have not allocated sufficient funds to social housing to enable it to grow and keep up with demand; instead the eligibility criteria has been tightened. This means that many people who once would have been eligible for social housing are not eligible today. Part of our work is to raise the knowledge base in the community. A better understanding should assist people advocating for their clients or their own needs. With this objective in mind Shelter continued to develop and deliver its community education program and maintained its commitment to making quality information

available to the community via our publications and website.

During the year just gone Shelter completed a community consultation process where we sought to identify issues across New South Wales. We concluded that throughout the state, despite very real regional differences, the major issue everywhere is a lack of housing affordable to low- and increasingly moderate-income households. The consultation highlighted the plight of many who are 'doing it very tough' because they can't find secure housing where they need it and at a price they can afford.

The changes now taking place in the social housing system are substantial and it is worth noting that there is often tension between systemic change and the impact it might have on individual households. During the year Shelter raised a number of these types of issues with Housing NSW, for example, the change to income calculation and rent-setting in community housing, practices relating to the collection of rent arrears, and the relocation of tenants where their home has become an asset to be reconfigured. It is important that housing providers, developers, and policymakers be very conscious that when managing an asset, reconfiguring the system, or developing new policy, real people are affected and that it is important to involve and consult with tenants and applicants.

Thank you to the staff of Shelter NSW, Craig Johnston, Paula Rix, Katie Florance and Yana Myronenko - each worked hard and with a great deal of commitment and enthusiasm. Thanks also to the Board and Executive for their considerable contributions. I also acknowledge and thank the Commonwealth Minister for Housing, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP, the NSW Minister for Housing, the Hon. David Borger, MP, and the Director-General of Housing NSW, Mike Allen, for their ongoing support for Shelter's work. Finally yet importantly, I thank the large numbers of individuals and organisations who have supported and contributed to Shelter's work throughout the year.

Mary Perkins  
Executive Officer

# Treasurer's report

I am pleased to present Shelter NSW's audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2009.

We achieved a small surplus for the year of \$1,037, compared to \$4,807 in the previous year.

The report contains separate statements of receipts and payments for our Housing NSW grant and for Shelter's self-generated activities, as well as a consolidated statement for the organisation as a whole. This breakdown indicates that activities related to our Housing NSW grant incurred a deficit of \$8,006, while our self-generated activities produced a surplus of \$9,043.

I would like to highlight two specific items in the financial report that are of note.

First, our staff costs rose substantially from 2007-08 to 2008-09. This reflects the welcome increase in funding provided by Housing NSW so that we could implement a more realistic and sustainable salary structure for Shelter's staff.

Secondly, income from registration fees for our seminars and conferences fell substantially this year compared to the previous year. However, this simply reflects the fact that our major conference for 2009 was held in July and the proceeds from that very successful event will appear in next year's accounts.

Over the four-year period that I have been Treasurer we have made substantial progress in modernising

Shelter's financial systems. The staff and Executive have been working on further enhancements to make.

I wish to thank Shelter's Executive Officer, Mary Perkins, and our Office Administrator, Yana Myronenko, for the assistance they have given me as Treasurer and for their diligent administration of Shelter's finance and systems. I also thank David Pierce of Pierce Munro Pty. Ltd. for his excellent accounting assistance and for his helpful advice to the Executive on a range of issues.

On behalf of the organisation I would also like to thank the Minister for Housing, the Hon. David Borger MP, and the Director-General of Housing NSW, Mike Allen, and his staff, for their support for the vital work that Shelter does.

Warren Gardiner  
Treasurer



# Report on activities

The following report on Shelter NSW's activities is based on the 2008-09 operational plan which is linked to the 2008-11 strategic plan.

## 1. Policy issues and identification of change projects

The major focus for Shelter NSW is to advance the housing interests of low-income and disadvantaged people in New South Wales. We do this through an advocacy role in national, state and local arenas. Our policy work for 2008-09 focused on seven priority policy areas.

### Major priority areas

#### 1.1 Increased supply/expansion of social housing

During the first half of 2008-09, Shelter NSW, in conjunction with a number of state and national non-government organisations, engaged in a campaign designed to influence the process led by the Council of Australian Governments for determining the new National Affordable Housing Agreement, which replaced the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement from 1 January 2009.

Shelter NSW, working at both state and national levels, advocated for six policies aimed at creating a fairer housing system:

- ▶ establishing a growth target involving an increase in public and non-profit housing stock by 30,000 additional dwellings by 2012
- ▶ establishing an 'Affordable Housing Growth Fund' of \$7.5 billion over a four-year period
- ▶ establishing an operating subsidy program for social housing, with funding of \$3.5 billion over four years being provided by the Commonwealth
- ▶ generating additional funding of approximately \$5 billion (as these proposed

funding arrangements fall short of that provided by the Commonwealth and states/territories through the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement)

- ▶ ensuring that new stock meets standards relating to dwelling quality, disability accessibility and energy efficiency
- ▶ reviewing Commonwealth Rent Assistance to ensure that it best meets the needs all low-income renters.

A range of national and state-based non-government organisations agreed to these policies and formed broad coalitions to advance them, namely, the National Affordable Housing Summit Group and the campaign group, 'Australia Fair'. Shelter NSW participated in both groups through National Shelter.

Shelter NSW conducted a letter-writing campaign aimed at drawing attention to community concerns about critical housing issues and the need for sustainability and growth in the social housing system. We prepared and circulated a fact sheet to inform campaign participants and, over a five-month period from August 2008, also prepared four draft letters that campaign participants could send to ministers and Members of Parliament. Our website, Member eBulletin and emails were used to keep participants informed and up-to-date. Shelter NSW also circulated information to other state Shelters.

At a national level Shelter NSW continued to contribute to the work of the National Affordable Housing Summit Group, attending round table meetings in August and October 2008 in Sydney and Canberra respectively.

We also contributed to organising and participated in the National Housing Advocacy Day held on 24 September 2008. The event was organised by National Shelter, the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), the Community Housing Federation of Australia and Homelessness Australia under the 'Australia Fair' banner, and its purpose was to meet with



Sixty-four lobbied federal members of parliament as part of National Housing Advocacy Day in Canberra on 24 September 2008 (photo: Garry Mallard).

as many Members of Parliament as possible to call for increased support for social housing.

As part of National Shelter, we were involved in organising a seminar on the National Affordable Housing Agreement held in Melbourne on 28 August 2008.

A campaign brief on the increased supply/ expansion of social housing was prepared as part of the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign in October 2008.

We also participated in National Shelter delegations to meet with the Commonwealth Minister for Housing and the Prime Minister during November 2008.

On 25 February 2009, following the Commonwealth's major increase in funding for social housing (as part of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan), Shelter NSW prepared a summary of the proposed housing initiatives for 2008-09. This information was placed on our website to provide a resource for those who had participated in our campaign.

Other significant activities of Shelter NSW within this major policy area have included

attendance at a consultation organised by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs on development of the community housing sector; lodgment of a submission and a supplementary submission to the inquiry into homelessness and low-cost rental accommodation conducted by the NSW Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues; and preparation of commentary on the state Budget for 2008-09. This was published in June 2009 as a new, occasional, informational product, *Shelter NSW Comment*.

## 1.2 Increased private supply/ expansion of private rental housing for low rental

In October 2008 Shelter NSW prepared a campaign brief in relation to this issue as part of the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign. The brief informed the community consultation process.

As a continuation of this work, a scoping paper dated 23 January 2009 was subsequently prepared and presented to the Shelter NSW

Board on 5 February 2009. The material from the scoping paper was developed into an educational resource as Shelter Brief no. 37, and it was also used as the basis for an article in the April 2009 edition of *Parity*.

### 1.3 Responsive public housing services by Housing NSW

Our work on responsive public housing services by Housing NSW led to our identification of a number of areas requiring immediate advocacy.

We met with the Office of Community Housing about community housing tenants' rents on 15 September 2008. We expressed a view that the new rent-setting arrangements could cause increased financial hardship for many tenants. We also argued that in the future when significant changes of this sort are being considered, tenants should be consulted. We delivered a presentation to a workshop for community housing tenants on 22 September 2008.

We have also provided some ongoing advice and support to tenants' representatives.

Shelter NSW, along with the Tenants' Union of NSW and the Welfare Rights Centre, Sydney, wrote to the Director-General of Housing NSW, expressing concerns about the intention to make the deduction of rents from Centrelink compulsory for public housing tenants.

Illawarra Legal Centre raised with us the issue of Housing NSW's practice of seeking repayment of rental arrears on the basis of three weeks' payment every two weeks. We raised this issue with the Director-General of Housing NSW and the NSW Minister for Housing, the Hon. David Borger, MP.

### 1.4 Sustainable homeownership for low-income households

A campaign brief was prepared in October 2008 as part of the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign, and it outlined initial ideas and possibilities in relation to sustainable homeownership for low-income households. Jon Eastgate of 99 Consulting was commissioned to write a scoping paper outlining the issues and needs facing marginal and at-risk home purchasers, the range of housing assistance programs available to them, and possible new options. The report was completed and published in June 2009 as Shelter Brief no. 40.

The brief indicated that although there are a wide range of policies and programs in place to provide financial support to home purchasers, support for low-income households to access homeownership has both benefits and risks.

A number of examples where other approaches were being undertaken in both Australia and overseas were presented in the brief. These included: 'innovative' mortgage schemes

tailored to low-income households; shared equity schemes; rent-to-buy schemes; subsidies or grants; tax relief; targeted development projects; sweat equity schemes; ownership-to-rental schemes; and insurance schemes.

Shelter Brief no. 39 on community land trusts was published in



June 2009. We also partnered with the Urban Research Centre of the University of Western Sydney to organise a seminar on community land trusts which took place on 25 March 2009.

## Other policy areas

### 1.5 Homelessness and its links with housing unaffordability

Shelter NSW prepared a submission in response to the Commonwealth Government's green paper on homelessness. In that submission our main focus was on the issue of an affordable housing system that prevents homelessness, facilitates an effective response to homelessness when it occurs and reduces the likelihood of its recurrence.

We prepared a submission to an inquiry into homelessness and low-cost rental accommodation by the Standing Committee on Social Issues of the NSW Legislative Council, and we appeared at a public hearing of the inquiry.

We also joined other NSW peak bodies and organisations with expertise in homelessness to form a new NSW non-government coalition on homelessness, the NSW Homelessness Community Alliance.

### 1.6 State environmental planning policy and affordable housing

A campaign brief was prepared on state environmental planning policy and affordable housing as part of the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign in October 2008. A report on this issue was prepared for and adopted by the Shelter NSW Board on 23 October 2008.

The Board subsequently made a decision that the goal for a campaign would be the introduction by the NSW Minister for Planning of 'a state environmental planning policy on affordable housing that (i) enables councils that want inclusionary zoning schemes to be easily able to have them, by appropriate wording to satisfy sections 94F(1) and 94F(3)(a), and (ii) at least preserves the current protections on loss of affordable housing provided by

State Environmental Planning Policy no. 10'. A background paper (dated October 2008) was distributed to key non-government organisations, and it was published on the Shelter NSW and Affordable Housing Network websites following the Board's decision regarding the campaign matter.

We attended a Department of Planning briefing on affordable housing policy on 19 November 2008 and subsequently lodged a submission on 28 November 2008.

The Council of the City of Sydney prepared a draft affordable rental housing strategy which included a proposal for a city-wide affordable housing levy that would require validation by a State Environmental Planning Policy. We lodged submissions to the council during the public exhibition period generally supporting the draft strategy (9 April 2009) and the affordable housing levy proposal (22 April 2009).

### 1.7 Barriers to housing assistance for humanitarian entrants to Australia

Shelter NSW conducted a consultation with the Non-English Speaking Background (NESB) Housing Taskforce NSW in December 2008. The changes to the visa categories made in May 2008 removed many barriers to public assistance for humanitarian entrants. Consequently this area of activity will not be continued in 2009-10.

## 2. Consultation through regional workshops

As part of the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign, Shelter NSW held eight regional workshops (with a total of 197 participants) between October and December 2008. The workshops considered major housing policy areas around which advocacy and policy work could be initiated.

The process involved Shelter NSW developing workshop programs, organising and conducting the workshops and preparing a final report

which was published as Shelter Brief no. 38. The workshops brought a range of individuals and groups together to specifically focus on the challenges of the housing crisis experienced by people on low incomes.

The findings, ideas and possible solutions that came out of the workshops provided Shelter NSW and the participants with significant information and cross-fertilisation of ideas for potential 'change projects' that could improve housing opportunities for people on low incomes.

The participants highlighted the most pressing issues of housing need in the lives of those who live on low incomes. These were clustered around three of the four major housing policy areas, namely, increased supply/expansion of social housing, increased supply/expansion of private rental housing for low rental, and responsive public housing services by Housing NSW.

### 3. Responding to the changing environment

Shelter NSW, like other non-government organisations and governments generally, has had to respond to a rapidly changing environment during 2008-09. Shelter NSW responded in a number of ways as follows. (Some of these responses are highlighted in other parts of this report.)

#### 3.1 Writing submissions in response to inquiries and other relevant requests that arose (where relevant to designated policy areas)

Shelter NSW lodged a submission to the Commonwealth Government on its green paper on homelessness (July 2008). We prepared commentary on a draft Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Affordable Housing Contributions) Bill introduced by Sylvia Hale MLC, copies of which were provided to five Members of Parliament (October 2008). We lodged a submission to the NSW Legislative

Council Standing Committee on Social Issues with respect to their inquiry into homelessness and low-cost rental accommodation (March 2009), and we appeared at a public hearing of this inquiry in April 2009. We were asked to respond to 13 follow-up questions, which we did, by lodging a supplementary submission in May 2009.

#### 3.2 Writing in support of other organisations' submissions and requests (consistent with Shelter NSW policy and expertise)

Shelter NSW prepared a letter of support for the work done by the Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development.

#### 3.3 Contributing to the consultative and other processes managed by Housing NSW

Shelter NSW provided input into a number of meetings, discussions and reviews during the year. We participated through our membership of a number of groups:

- ▶ NGO Housing Partners Reference Group
- ▶ Partnership Against Homelessness Action Resource Group
- ▶ Multicultural Forum
- ▶ Living Communities Consultative Committee
- ▶ Community Regeneration Expert Advisory Committee
- ▶ Stock Transfer Program Round Table
- ▶ Office of Community Housing Regulatory Code for Registered Community Housing Providers Development and Implementation Advisory Group.

We also attended meetings regarding the following:

- ▶ Consultation on the Disability Access Plan
- ▶ Consultation on Youth Housing Policy
- ▶ Tenant group forum focused on the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan
- ▶ Budgets for Housing NSW and the Aboriginal Housing Office.

### 3.4 Contributing to the work of non-governmental boards and committees (consistent with Shelter NSW policy and expertise)

Through its expertise in advancing the housing interests of low-income and disadvantaged people in New South Wales, Shelter NSW provided significant support to the boards and committees of other non-government organisations.

Shelter NSW's Executive Officer filled the position of Vice-Chairperson for National Shelter. This involved participating in seminars, National Shelter Council meetings, round table meetings of the National Affordable Housing Summit Group and meetings with the offices of the Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Minister for Housing.

Shelter NSW's Executive Officer is a member of the Board of ACOSS. The Board has consistently incorporated National Shelter's issues within its policy and lobbying.

Shelter NSW's Executive Officer is Vice-President of the Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS). Shelter NSW was consulted in

relation to the housing component of the NCOSS pre-Budget submission for 2009-10.

Shelter NSW attended meetings of the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) Policy Advice Group, which no longer meets. However the NSW Homelessness Community Alliance was set up in November 2008 and we attended their meetings. We contributed to a list of proposed goals for the alliance's policy platform and we also contributed towards compiling a mapping of the initiatives in the homelessness white paper, *The road home*.

We provided assistance to the Canterbury Children and Families Interagency Housing Group by helping to organise a forum and survey about housing stress in the area, particularly on the effects and costs of housing stress on families of a non-English speaking background.

The Forum of Non-Government Agencies is comprised of non-government community welfare peak and regional organisations. It is coordinated by NCOSS and meets quarterly. Shelter NSW attended these meetings in order to be informed about issues in other portfolios that are of relevance to our thinking and work,

and to provide information on housing to forum members.

Shelter NSW's Principal Policy Officer was a consumer representative on the Energy and Water Ombudsman NSW Council and attended a number of meetings during the year.



The Commonwealth Minister for Housing, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP, addresses the Shelter NSW conference (photo: Garry Mallard).

## 4. Community education activities

A number of courses and training workshops were organised and undertaken by Shelter NSW during the year.

We conducted ten workshops and community consultation sessions, each of which included a substantial training component.

Two workshops entitled 'Social housing and community voices' were conducted - one in Newcastle and the other in central Sydney.

A conference entitled 'The crisis and beyond: for a stronger and fairer housing system' was held on 2 July 2009 as part of the operational plan for 2008-09. The conference covered new Commonwealth Government housing initiatives, the NSW Government's housing initiatives and implementation of Commonwealth reforms, the role of public, community and Aboriginal housing, the impact of the tax system on private sector supply of housing, homelessness, access to homeownership by working households, and what is needed to create homes for tenants. There were 235 attendees. Some of the presentations and talks were uploaded onto Shelter's website.

A number of presentations were given at conferences, seminars, workshops and community meetings. The broad-ranging topics included 'current challenges in our housing system' and 'the new National Affordable Housing Agreement and what it might mean for social housing'.

Shelter NSW also co-sponsored a seminar on community land trusts with the Urban Research Centre of the University of Western Sydney on 25 March 2008.

## 5. Direct activities and outputs

### 5.1 Policy work

Submissions lodged by Shelter NSW during the year included submissions to: the Department of Planning on affordable housing policy (November 2008); the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal on the state review of taxation (July 2008); the Department of Planning on the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan (July 2008); the Department of Planning on the Sydney City Sub-Regional Strategy (July 2008); the Commonwealth Minister for Housing in response to the green paper on homelessness (July 2008); and the NSW Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues regarding its inquiry into homelessness and low-cost rental accommodation (March and May 2009).

A number of informal representations were also made to the Commonwealth and state governments on funding targets and considerations in relation to the National Affordable Housing Agreement, and to the Office of Community Housing on rent-setting changes.

### 5.2 Consultation and networking

Shelter NSW's consultation and networking activities continued throughout the year with government and non-government organisations. Periodic meetings were held with ministers at both state and Commonwealth levels, as well as with the Director-General of Housing NSW, ministerial advisors and opposition spokespersons.

We contributed to the consultative processes managed by Housing NSW through participation in: a strategic directions workshop; the NGO Housing Partners Reference Group; the Partnership Against Homelessness Action Resource Group; the Multicultural Forum Living Communities Consultative Committee; the Community Regeneration Expert Advisory Committee; the Office of Community Housing Regulatory Code for Registered Community Housing Providers Development and

Implementation Advisory Group; the consultation on the Disability Access Plan; and the consultation on the youth housing policy.

On non-government sector relations, eight regional consultations were completed and three NESB Housing Taskforce meetings were attended.

### 5.3 Media and publications

Media and publications in particular continue to play an important part of both policy advocacy and community education. During 2008–09, Shelter NSW published four editions of *Around the House*, seven Member

eBulletins and six Shelter Briefs:

- ▶ *Demographia housing affordability surveys: an assessment of the methodology* (Shelter Brief no. 35)
- ▶ *Somewhere to call home: background information* (Shelter Brief no. 36)
- ▶ *Encouraging supply of private rental for low-income renters* (Shelter Brief no. 37)
- ▶ *Regional housing needs: report on Shelter NSW regional workshops from October to December 2008* (Shelter Brief no. 38)
- ▶ *Community land trusts: what are they?* (Shelter Brief no. 39)



- ▶ *Sustainable home ownership for low-income households: context and policy options* (Shelter Brief no. 40).

Significant information has been prepared and placed and/or updated as resource material on our website. Information included: a fact sheet on the National Affordable Housing Agreement; a summary of Commonwealth housing initiatives since 2008 (and updated in response to developments); campaign briefs for the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign on social housing supply, private rental supply, sustainable homeownership, and state environmental planning policies and affordable housing; a new online informational product,

*Shelter NSW Comment* on the 2009-10 state Budget; and updates of the fact sheets for Australia and New South Wales.

Our training resources for the 'social housing and community voices' were updated, and our website was updated at least weekly.

## 6. Enabling activities

In order for Shelter NSW to meet its key goals of advocating for systemic change and for providing community education, a number of enabling activities were undertaken during the year so that these key goals could be achieved within a 'good governance framework'.

### 6.1 Good governance

The Shelter NSW Board sees good governance as an integral part of its role and responsibilities and accordingly met on 11 occasions during the year. At least one identified policy issue was discussed at each Board meeting and appropriately qualified experts were invited to

attend meetings to advise and inform Board considerations. A self-review of the Board and a review of the knowledge and skills of its members was undertaken during 2008-09. The Board has also established a Membership Sub-Committee to develop longer term strategies to increase membership.

The Shelter NSW annual general meeting was held on 11 December 2008 and was addressed by the Commonwealth Minister for Housing, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP.

### 6.2. Effective administration

All significant priorities in relation to general administration, as set out in the Shelter NSW operational plan for 2008-09, were completed. These included recruiting an office administrator; amending the governance section of the 'Policy and procedures manual'; revising the format of financial reports; auditing and reviewing the budget; maintaining the email address lists for members, subscribers, regional contacts, past seminar attendees and past training attendees; and auditing the IT system.

### 6.3 Effective networking

Shelter NSW participated in a range of committees and was part of a number of boards to ensure the continuation of effective networking. Our broad involvement in boards and committees is detailed in '3. Responding to the changing environment'.



The NSW Minister for Housing, the Hon. David Borger, MP, addresses the conference. Also on the panel were Andrew Meehan, Shelter NSW Chairperson, Millie Ingram, who performed the welcome to country, and the Commonwealth Minister for Housing, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP (photo: Garry Mallard).

## 6.4 Evaluation plans and strategies

Shelter NSW conducted evaluations of each of its workshops, training sessions and conferences undertaken throughout the year. The results of these evaluations have been incorporated into our ongoing quality improvement process and have, for example, influenced the planning of future events and course content.

## 6.5 Review of publications and website

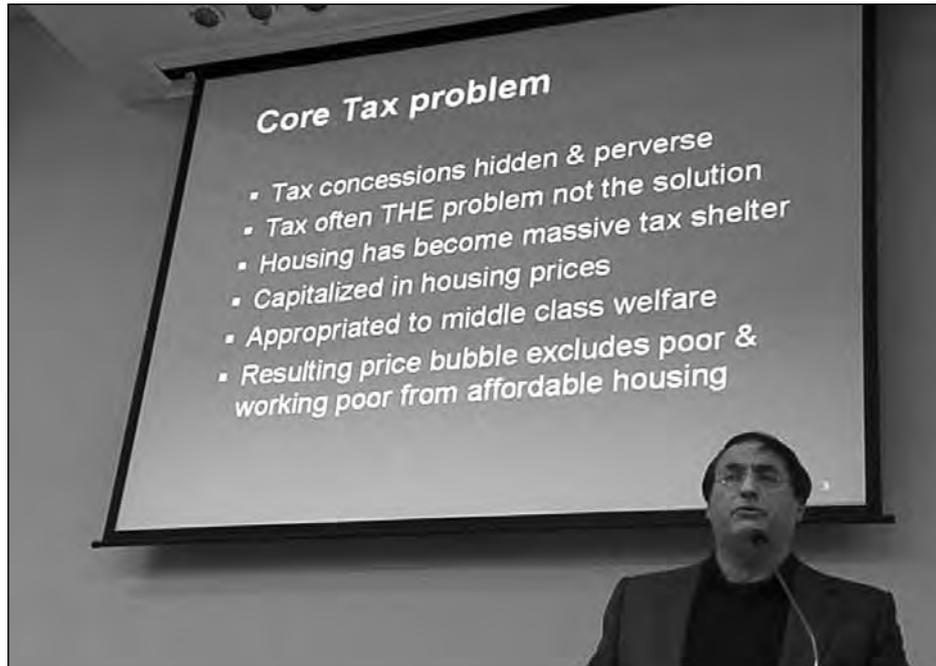
A review of the Shelter NSW website and its publications has been instigated. Some recommendations relating to the form and distribution of publications have been implemented and the more costly revamp of the website has been incorporated into the 2009-10 operational plan. The design of the membership leaflet and Shelter Briefs was revised.

## 6.6 Staff development

Staff development priorities and achievements for the year included team building, increasing staff understanding of process-driven strategies and training in new skills.

## 6.7 Financial sustainability

In order to ensure its financial viability, Shelter NSW has commented on an ACOSS submission to the Commonwealth Government's review on taxation; promoted membership at all our activities; sought and obtained two contracts



Housing is a massive tax shelter, said Yuri Grbich at the conference (photo: Garry Mallard).

to provide training; received a significant donation as a contribution to the cost of our conference; and sought and received a special grant from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to assist with some of the costs of the July 2009 conference.

# Summary of Shelter NSW activities

## Papers, submissions and reports

- ▶ Submission to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal on the state review of taxation (July 2008)
- ▶ Submission to the Department of Planning on the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan (July 2008)
- ▶ Submission to the Department of Planning on the Sydney City Sub-Regional Strategy (July 2008)
- ▶ Submission on the Commonwealth Government's green paper on homelessness (July 2008)
- ▶ 'A guide to a proposed National Affordable Housing Agreement' (August 2008)
- ▶ Demographia *housing affordability surveys: an assessment of the methodology*, Shelter Brief no. 35 (October 2008)
- ▶ Commentary on a draft Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Affordable Housing Contributions) Bill introduced by Sylvia Hale MLC, copies of which were provided to five Members of Parliament (October 2008)
- ▶ Campaign briefs for the 'Somewhere to call home' campaign on social housing supply, private rental supply, sustainable homeownership, and state environmental planning policies and affordable housing (October 2008)
- ▶ *Somewhere to call home: briefing information*, Shelter Brief no. 36 (November 2008)
- ▶ Submission to the Department of Planning on affordable housing policy (November 2008)
- ▶ *Encouraging supply of private rental for low-income renters*, Shelter Brief no. 37 (February 2009)
- ▶ Commonwealth initiatives on housing assistance since 2008 (February 2009; updated)
- ▶ Submission to the NSW Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues regarding its inquiry into homelessness and low-cost rental accommodation (March and May 2009)
- ▶ *Regional housing needs: report on Shelter NSW regional workshops from October to December 2008*, Shelter Brief no. 38 (May 2009)
- ▶ *Community land trusts: what are they?*, Shelter Brief no. 39 (June 2009)
- ▶ Shelter NSW Comment on the 2009-10 state Budget (June 2009)
- ▶ *Sustainable homeownership for low-income households: context and policy options*, Shelter Brief no. 40 (June 2009)
- ▶ NSW housing fact sheet (updated)
- ▶ Housing Australia fact sheet (updated).

## Other publications

- ▶ 4 editions of Shelter's newsletter, *Around the House*
- ▶ 7 Member eBulletins
- ▶ 4 emails promoting a letter-writing campaign for increased social housing funding (August 2008–December 2008)
- ▶ Shelter website (updated at least weekly)
- ▶ Annual report (November 2008)
- ▶ Training resources for the 'Social housing and community voices' training course.

## Conferences and training

- ▶ 'Community land trusts: perpetually-affordable housing and community resilience' conference, co-sponsored with the Urban Research Centre of the University of Western Sydney, Sydney (25 March 2009)
- ▶ 'The crisis and beyond: for a stronger and fairer housing system' conference, Sydney (2 July 2009)
- ▶ 'Social housing and community voices' training course, for social housing tenants, Newcastle (9 December 2008)
- ▶ 'Social housing and community voices' training course, for social housing tenants, Inner Sydney (26 June 2009).

## Shelter-resourced networks

- ▶ NESB Housing Taskforce NSW
- ▶ Regional network (for Shelter NSW).

## Public meetings and presentations

- ▶ 'Current challenges in our housing system', to Fairfield Housing Taskforce, Fairfield (31 July 2008)
- ▶ 'New initiatives on housing and social inclusion', to Western Sydney Community Forum, Parramatta (18 August 2008)
- ▶ 'Challenges in our housing system', at NSW Federation of Housing Associations conference (10 September 2008)
- ▶ 'Problems in rent-setting for community housing tenants', to the Association of Community Housing Tenants (17 September 2008)
- ▶ 'The new National Affordable Housing Agreement and what it might mean for social housing', to Erin's Place annual general meeting (15 October 2008)
- ▶ 'Shelter NSW's "Somewhere to call home" campaign', at Canterbury Children and Families Interagency Housing Group's forum on 'Snapshot of families living in housing stress', Lakemba (29 October 2008).

# **SHELTER NSW**

**ABN 95 942 688 134**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**For the year ended 30 June 2009**

Prepared by  
**Churton Kelly**  
PO BOX 30  
MATRAVILLE NSW 2036

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## **CHURTON KELLY**

**CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS**

Ground Floor, 506 Bunnerong Road, Matraville NSW 2036 Tel: (02) 9661 8116 Fax: (02) 9311 4052

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Balance Sheet	2
Statement Of Receipts And Payments	3
Notes To Financial Statement	7
Directors' Declaration	9
Audit Report	11

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Receivables	2	990	-
Cash assets	3	302,633	236,123
Other assets	4	2,405	2,103
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>306,028</b>	<b>238,225</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>306,028</b>	<b>238,225</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	5	82,531	75,344
Provisions	6	113,272	76,416
Personnel-related items	7	15,913	5,546
Tax liabilities	8	(4,051)	(5,407)
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>207,665</b>	<b>151,899</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>207,665</b>	<b>151,899</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>98,363</b>	<b>86,326</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	9	61,338	72,838
Surplus for the year		1,037	4,807
Accumulated Surplus		35,988	8,681
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>98,363</b>	<b>86,326</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.  
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grant Income	547,274	419,227
Special Purpose Funding	5,891	-
	<u>553,165</u>	<u>419,227</u>
<b>GROSS SURPLUS FROM TRADING</b>	<b>553,165</b>	<b>419,227</b>
Donations Received	90	17,961
Fee-for-service Income	2,565	-
Interest received	3,991	8,570
Membership Income	10,965	11,072
Miscellaneous Income	-	2,784
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	145
Publications Sales	-	153
Seminars & Conference Income	2,211	19,379
	<u>19,822</u>	<u>60,065</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Accounting fees	11,545	11,646
Advertising	1,411	-
Audit Fees	3,050	2,872
Bank charges	482	416
Capital Outgoings	12,215	34,315
Dues and subscriptions	5,197	2,945
Electricity	1,576	1,606
Equipment Replacements	635	11,000
Filing Fees	41	82
Hire of plant and equipment	-	936
Insurance	8,177	6,085
Interest	130	177
Internet Access & Hosting	11,045	325
Materials / Consumables	-	9,353
Meeting Expenses	18,078	6,652
Merchant fees	369	298
Postage	2,340	2,030
Printing and stationery	15,270	12,109
Project Expenses	4,014	3,334
Rent	32,403	30,880
Sundry expenses	5,818	2,044
Telephone	3,909	4,504
Travel	14,590	7,880
Staff Costs	409,063	312,913
Contractors and sub-contractors	993	-
Consultant services	9,600	10,083
	<u>571,951</u>	<u>474,485</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.  
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
<b>SURPLUS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>4,807</b>
Accumulated Surplus	35,988	8,681
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>37,025</b>	<b>13,488</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.  
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
<b>DOH Grant</b>		
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grant Income	547,274	419,227
	<u>547,274</u>	<u>419,227</u>
<b>GROSS SURPLUS FROM TRADING</b>	<b>547,274</b>	<b>419,227</b>
Donations	1	-
Interest received	1,389	838
Miscellaneous Income	-	1,198
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment (Clearing)	-	145
	<u>1,390</u>	<u>2,181</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Accounting fees	11,545	11,646
Advertising	1,411	-
Audit Fees	3,050	2,872
Bank charges	482	416
Capital Outgoings	12,215	34,315
Dues and subscriptions	3,197	1,945
Electricity	1,576	1,606
Equipment Replacements	635	-
Filing Fees	41	82
Insurance	8,177	6,085
Interest Paid	130	177
Internet Expenses	11,045	325
Meeting Expenses	11,486	4,809
Merchant fees	369	298
Postage	2,340	532
Printing and stationery	14,444	4,737
Rental expenses	32,403	30,880
Sundry expenses	5,818	1,962
Telephone, mobile and fax	3,909	4,504
Travel	8,927	5,517
Venue Hire	4,014	139
Staff Costs	409,063	299,156
Contractors and sub-contractors	793	-
Consultant services	9,600	7,000
	<u>556,670</u>	<u>419,005</u>
<b>DEFICIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	<b>(8,006)</b>	<b>2,404</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.  
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

<b>Shelter</b>	2009	2008
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Special Purpose Grant	5,891	-
	<u>5,891</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>GROSS SURPLUS FROM TRADING</b>	<b><u>5,891</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
Donations	89	17,961
Fee for Service Income	2,565	-
Interest received	2,602	7,732
Memberships	10,965	11,072
Miscellaneous Income	-	1,586
Publication Sales	-	153
Seminars	2,211	19,379
	<u>18,432</u>	<u>57,884</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Dues and subscriptions	2,000	1,000
Equipment Replacements	-	11,000
Hire of plant and equipment	-	936
Materials / Consumables	-	9,353
Meeting Expenses	6,592	1,842
Postage	-	1,497
Printing and stationery	826	7,372
Sundry expenses	-	82
Travel	5,663	2,363
Venue Hire	-	3,195
Wages	-	13,756
Contractors and sub-contractors	200	-
Consultant services	-	3,083
	<u>15,281</u>	<u>55,480</u>
<b>SURPLUS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	<b><u>9,043</u></b>	<b><u>2,404</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.  
These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

2009	2008
\$	\$

### NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a. This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by directors and members of the company. The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031: Materiality

AASB 110: Events Occurring After Reporting Date

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policy, which is consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, has been adopted in the preparation of this report:

- b. **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Expenditure on Plant & Equipment is recognised as an expense in the Income Statement. This is consistent with the conditions of the funding agreement with the Department of Housing.

### NOTE 2: RECEIVABLES

Trade debtors	990	-
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### NOTE 3: CASH ASSETS

Cash on hand	-	200
Cash in transit	1,830	4,006
Petty cash	382	11
Ind Cheque Account 7801	30,672	170,034
No 1 Cheque Account 7713	124,749	56,871
CBA Term Deposit	145,000	5,000
	<u>302,633</u>	<u>236,123</u>

### NOTE 4: OTHER ASSETS

Prepayments	2,205	1,903
Deposit paid	200	200
	<u>2,405</u>	<u>2,103</u>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>NOTE 5: PAYABLES</b>		
Trade creditors	2,119	34,095
Credit Card Clearing	-	339
Grants in Advance	9,109	-
Sundry creditors	71,304	29,910
Provision for Equipment Replacements	-	11,000
	<u>82,531</u>	<u>75,344</u>
<b>NOTE 6: PROVISIONS</b>		
Employee entitlements	101,924	76,416
Provision for relief staff	11,348	-
	<u>113,272</u>	<u>76,416</u>
<b>NOTE 7: PERSONNEL-RELATED ITEMS</b>		
PAYG withholding payable	12,333	4,618
Superannuation payable	3,580	928
	<u>15,913</u>	<u>5,546</u>
<b>NOTE 8: TAX LIABILITIES</b>		
GST collected	2,670	2,151
GST paid	(6,720)	(7,558)
	<u>(4,051)</u>	<u>(5,407)</u>
<b>NOTE 9: RESERVES</b>		
General reserve	51,338	62,838
Contingency Reserve	10,000	10,000
	<u>61,338</u>	<u>72,838</u>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

# **SHELTER NSW**

**ABN 95 942 688 134**

## **STATEMENT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

**For the year ended 30/06/2009**

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee has determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the accompanying accounts:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of SHELTER NSW as at 30/06/2009 and the results and cash flows of the association for the year ended on that date in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
2. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

---

Andrew Meehan  
Chairperson

---

Warren Gardiner  
Treasurer

Dated : 16/10/2009

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## COMMITTEES REPORT

For the year ended 30/06/2009

Your Committee members submit the financial accounts of the SHELTER NSW for the financial year ended 30/06/2009

### Committee Members

The names of the Committee members as at the date of this report are:

Andrew Meehan	Chairperson
Sue Cripps	Secretary
Warren Gardiner	Treasurer
Grant Arbutnot	
Melinda Hewitt	
Maureen Kingshott	
Garry Mallard	
Annette O'Neill	
Dean Price	
Bill Randolph	
Judy Singer	
Judy Stubbs	
Terry Wilson	

### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the year were: advocacy on behalf of low income housing consumers; production of housing newsletters; liaison with State and Federal housing authorities; participation in consultation on housing agreements and housing issues generally.

### Significant Changes

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities undertaken by the association during the year.

### Operating Result

The surplus/(deficit) amounted to:

Year ended	Year ended
30/06/2009	30/06/2008
\$1,037	\$ 4,807

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee

---

Andrew Meehan

---

Warren Gardiner

# SHELTER NSW

ABN 95 942 688 134

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

### *Report on the financial report*

We have audited the accompanying financial report of SHELTER NSW, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30/06/2009 and the Profit & Loss statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes which appear on pages numbered 2 - 8 of the financial report

### *The responsibility of the Committee for the financial report*

The Committee are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. The Committee has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association Incorporation Act and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members and the Department of Housing (the "specified users").

### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the specified users. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates for any other purpose than that for which it has been prepared.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian auditing standards. These auditing standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by [those charged with governance], as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Independence*

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

### *Auditor's opinion*

In our opinion the financial report, in all material respects, presents fairly the financial position of SHELTER NSW as at 30/06/2009 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (including the Australian accounting Interpretations).

Name of Partner

Karen Kelly 2061185

PO BOX 30  
MATRAVILLE NSW 2036

Dated : 16/10/2009

## CHURTON KELLY

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS

Ground Floor, 506 Bunnerong Road, Matraville NSW 2036 Page: 102 9661 8116 Fax: (02) 9311 4052 ABN: 59 100 723 055

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation