

Fact Sheet

November 2010

Private Rental: Your Housing Needs

Where do you want to live?

Decide if you need to live near:

- transport (check transport routes by going to the website www.131500.info)
- services (e.g. shops, doctors and hospitals, schools, childcare etc)
- friends and family (can they get to you easily and you to them).

It is important to find out which areas have properties for rent at a price you can afford. You may need to consider a range of locations.

If you need to move to a completely new area, the local council or neighbourhood centre can tell you about services in that area.

You can find out where a property is and how to get there by going to the website www.whereis.com.au.

What sort of home do you need?

- How many bedrooms do you need?
- Do you prefer a house, a flat, or a townhouse?
- Do you need to live on the ground floor or could you live in an apartment with a lift?



- Do you need a property where pets are allowed?
- What other things are you looking for (a fenced garden, parking, a garage)?

How much rent can you afford?

An affordable rent is where you still have enough money left to pay your other household expenses, such as food, bills, credit cards, transport, etc after you have paid your rent. To do this you need to plan a budget.

If your expected expenses are more than your income you may need help to revise your budget, see where you might save, or look for a property in a more affordable area.

Tools and help to work out a budget are available on these websites:

- Financial Counsellors Association of NSW <http://www.financialcounsellors.com.au>
- Budget Planner: <http://www.financialcounsellors.com.au/BudgetPlanner.xls>
- Wesley Mission Credit Line Money Plan <http://www.wesleymission.org.au/centres/creditline/plan.asp>
- ANZ Bank's MoneyMinded Program Budget tool <http://www.moneyminded.com.au/documents/MyBudget.xls>

It is illegal for an officer of Housing NSW or a community housing provider to ask for money or favours or other benefits of any kind in exchange for helping you with your housing needs.

It is also illegal for you or anyone else to offer money or favours or other benefits of any kind to anyone who works for Housing NSW or a community housing provider in exchange for helping you. If you have any information regarding this, please contact Business Assurance on 1300 HOUSING (1300 468 746).

Translation service

Arabic	خدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفهية المجانية اتصل على الرقم 131 450
Chinese	免費的翻譯傳譯服務 致電 131 450
Russian	Служба бесплатного письменного и устного перевода Позвоните по номеру 131 450
Spanish	Servicio Gratuito de Traducción e Interpretación Llame al 131 450
Vietnamese	Dịch vụ Phiên dịch và Thông dịch Miễn phí Điện thoại 131 450