

**Communique
Melbourne
Friday 19 December 2014**

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria held their last Board meeting for the calendar year today 19 December 2014 in Melbourne.

New Victorian Government

The Board of Directors considered and discussed opportunities to advance Aboriginal Housing Victoria's (AHV's) long term aspirations for self-determination that arise from the incoming government's commitment to ..."review the status of State owned properties currently managed by Aboriginal Housing Victoria with a view to transferring ownership from Government to AHV".

General lease

The Board noted the community housing sector's progress in negotiating the terms and conditions of the proposed new general lease between Housing Agencies and the Director of Housing. The proposed general lease provides Housing Agencies with more responsibilities for structural repairs and upgrades of leased properties and slightly more autonomy. The Board noted progress being made to understand the risks, financial liabilities and implications for AHV of entering into the general lease for the 1,449 properties that AHV leases from the Director of Housing.

Contracting of maintenance services

The Board approved new contracting arrangements with the existing responsive maintenance contractors which will provide improved oversight and greater control over maintenance works. We anticipate that the quality of works will improve and work will be completed earlier. Contractors will also benefit from streamlined processes resulting in earlier payments.

Compliance reporting

The Board approved final 2014 reports to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission and Housing Registrar.