

Communique

Aboriginal Housing Victoria Board Meeting

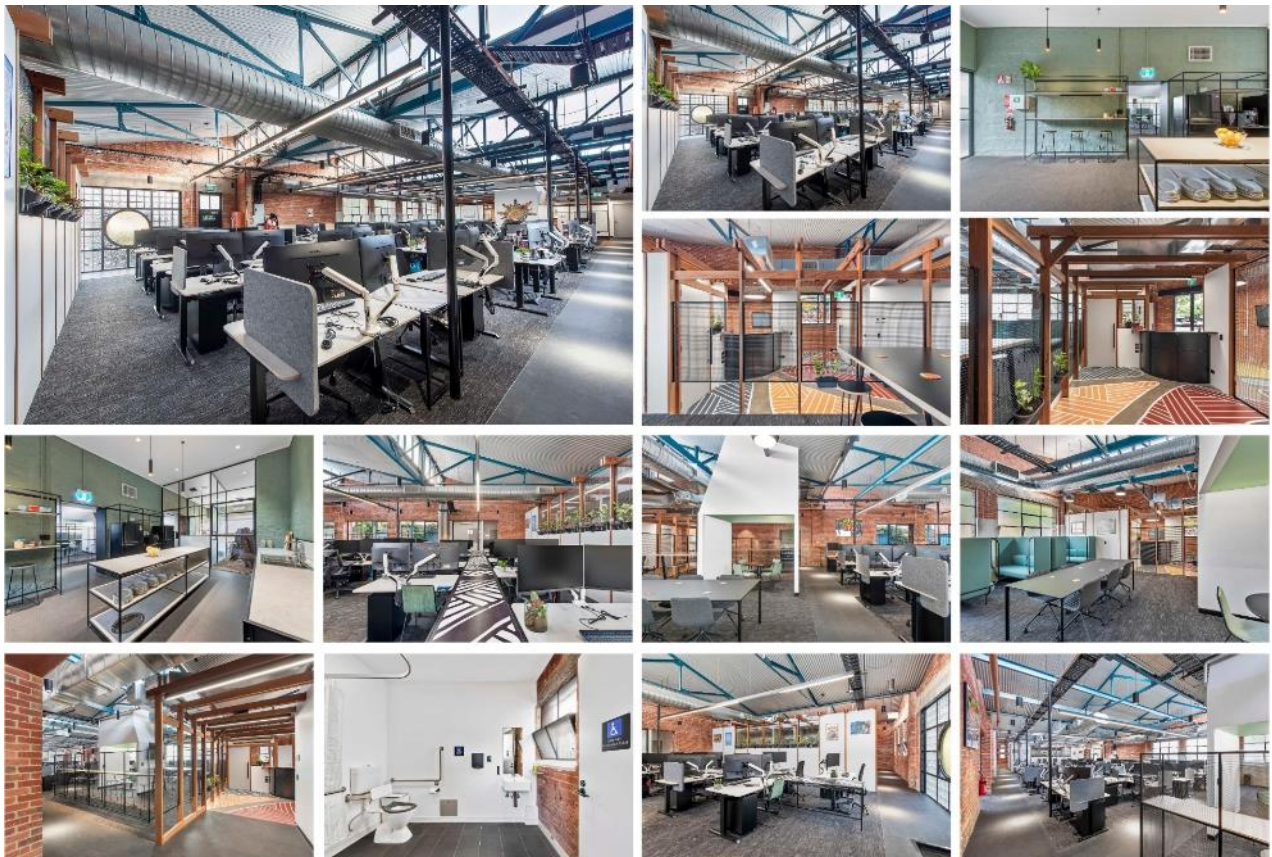
Friday 28 February 2020

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) held their second Board meeting for the calendar year on Friday 28 February in Melbourne.

Return to Narrandjeri House

The Board held its first meeting in the newly renovated AHV Head Office at 125-127 Scotchmer Street, North Fitzroy.

Internal works are complete at with nearly 50% of staff back in the new office. Construction on the courtyard started during the week commencing 10 February.



Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework

Aboriginal community members joined AHV in celebrating the official launch of the Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework on 26 February 2020, in the Victorian Parliament. The Chair of the Project Steering Committee, Prof Kerry Arabena, formally presented the Framework to The Hon Richard Wynne, MP, Minister for Housing and The Hon Gavin Jennings, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

As part of the official launch, the Ministers announced an initial investment of \$5.3 million to commence some of the initiatives identified in the Framework, including an Aboriginal-specific Private Rental Assistance Program, community engagement activities, continued funding for AHV's *More Than a Landlord* program, and exploring future investment in Aboriginal housing.

In accepting the Framework, Minister Wynne acknowledged that the housing challenges faced by many Aboriginal Victorians “are unique and embedded in historical injustice”, and he indicated the Government’s commitment to “working with Aboriginal communities in a spirit of genuine partnership and co-operation.”

For more information on the Framework, please visit:

<https://www.vahhf.org.au/>



Quarterly reporting

The Board received quarterly reports on progress against the business plan actions and the dashboard report on organisational performance. The Board noted actions underway to continue to improve performance.

Housing Registrar’s Annual Review Report

The Board noted that the Housing Registrar’s Annual Review Report for 2018-19 report confirmed that AHV is performing within the Housing Registrar’s required benchmarks, and our performance is generally comparable to other housing associations.

The report also notes that AHV has recorded a significant level of overall improvement against the Registrar's key performance measures (KPMs) through implementation of various initiatives and refinement of operational practices, including:

- a staff development program aimed at improving staff retention;
- a pilot program to provide support and incentives to tenants with high arrears who meet arrears reduction targets; and
- revised head contractor maintenance arrangements and maintenance processes.

Tenant engagement

The Board noted that three *Discussing issues and sharing ideas* tenant events are scheduled in regional Victoria during March and April; in Swan Hill (31 March, Echuca (1 April), and Shepparton (2 April). If you live in one of these communities, please drop into the event and have a chat with AHV staff.

For more information on these, and other planned community events, please contact our Communications Team on Email: communications@ahvic.org.au or Tel: 0438 134 804.