

Communique
Aboriginal Housing Victoria Board Meeting
Melbourne
Thursday 30 July 2015

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) held their sixth Board meeting for the calendar year today 30 July 2015 in Melbourne.

Asset Management Strategy

In anticipation of AHV undertaking asset management responsibilities under a general lease and/or transfer of title from 1 July 2016 AHV is strengthening its asset management capability. The Board considered and approved a high level Asset Management Policy which aligns AHV's asset management with the Victorian Government's asset life cycle approach to planning asset investment, acquisition, operation and maintenance and asset disposal and ensures service delivery needs as the primary drivers of AHV's management of assets. The Board considered and approved the key strategic initiatives providing the strategic framework for AHV's asset management as outlined in the Asset Management Strategy.

Due diligence

The Board considered and approved the impact of four future scenarios ranging from AHV entering into a general lease to title transfer on AHV's long term financial viability.

Organisational performance and progress in implementing the Business plan

The Board received quarterly reports on organisational performance and progress against the business plan and took note of actions underway to improve performance. The Board noted the opportunity to reflect on changes in the external policy environment and the organisation's directions and priorities moving into the new financial year.

Community Engagement Strategy

The Board approved the Community Engagement Strategy which was developed based on input from AHV's consultations with tenants and local organisations in late 2014 and early 2015. The Strategy outlines how AHV will engage with tenants, the Aboriginal community and with key partners in the housing and Aboriginal community sector and government.

Life Skills Program

The Board considered and approved the Life Skills Program which aims to provide tenants, particularly those most disadvantaged, with the skills to sustain their tenancies and effectively manage their households. The Program is based on early intervention and building capacity to achieve sustained change.

Royal Commission into Family violence

The Board discussed AHV's submission to the Royal Commission into Family Violence which outlined the impact of family violence on applicants and tenants. The Board supported improved access to affordable housing and more integrated and holistic services and support for victims and perpetrators. The Board endorsed continuing advocacy to improve safety of victims, address the needs of victims and perpetrators and reduce the high rates of family violence in the Aboriginal community.
