

## Media Release

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### 'Zone In: Real Action on Social Housing' Campaign Launch

The Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) is calling on all Victorian political parties to zone in and deliver real action on social housing.

EAHA Chair Cr Sharon Ellis, of Whitehorse City Council, today launched the EAHA's 'Zone In' campaign, four months out from the State Election.

The campaign asks all political parties to commit to:

- legislating to introduce mandatory inclusionary zoning in Victoria
- delivering at least 11,420 new social housing dwellings in the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) by 2036.

Cr Ellis said that EAHA research released today shows that there is a minimum supply shortfall of 7,970 social housing homes in the Eastern Metropolitan Region.

"There are 7,970 families in our region who don't have safe, secure and affordable housing," Cr Ellis said. "Alarmingly, if action is not taken, this number will increase to 11,420 by 2036."

"Real action is needed urgently."

Cr Ellis said that while EAHA member Councils are doing everything they can, the State Government has an important role to play in fixing this unacceptable situation.

"Introducing mandatory inclusionary zoning at a rate of at least 10 per cent on all surplus government land and strategic redevelopment sites would guarantee a steady supply of new social and affordable housing across the state," Cr Ellis said.

"It will give certainty to Government, Councils and developers about what's expected, and provide more opportunities for our most disadvantaged community members to access safe, secure and affordable housing."

Inclusionary zoning has been used extensively in places such as San Francisco, London, New York and Vancouver. Closer to home, South Australia has a mandatory 15% affordable housing requirement in all significant development projects.

Cr Ellis said that a key priority for the EAHA in advocating for the introduction of mandatory inclusionary zoning is to ensure vulnerable people and families aren't forced to move to unfamiliar areas to find a home.

"Increasing the supply of social and affordable housing in our region will allow people to remain in their community, close to family, friends and support services," Cr Ellis said.

"That's why the EAHA is calling on Victoria's political parties to zone in, and take real action on social housing."

For more information about the campaign, visit [www.zonein.net.au](http://www.zonein.net.au).

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## About the EAHA

The EAHA is a collaboration between the cities of Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges.

The EAHA aims to ensure that the most disadvantaged people in the Eastern Metropolitan Region have access to safe, secure and affordable housing.

As many of the factors influencing housing affordability are beyond the control of local government, the EAHA advocates to the State and Federal Government for investment and policies to increase the supply of social and affordable housing in our region.