



**nsw Federation of
Housing Associations inc**

Federation Bulletin



In this Bulletin

[Changes to
Under-
Occupancy
Policy in Public
Housing](#)

Contact Us
[Federation
website](#)
[General Email](#)

Public Housing Under-Occupancy Policy

Minister Goward announced a new approach to managing under-occupied properties

Following the Minister's announcement, the Federation attended a briefing session at Housing NSW on a new policy in relation to under-occupancy in public housing. The Department estimates that there will be approximately 400 households that will be affected by the new policy in the first 12 months.

The policy does not apply to community housing tenants, at least not for now. However, Housing NSW is going to review the application of the policy to community housing in consultation with providers.

The policy states that single people living in a dwelling that has more bedrooms than what a single person is normally entitled to will be required to pay an additional \$20 a week. For couples the amount is set at \$30 a week. It is important to note that the additional charges are set per household not per bedroom.

Tenants who are living in a property with additional bedrooms will have the same priority for re-housing as priority for housing. Tenants should only be asked to transfer to a smaller property if they are under-occupying according to their entitlement.

It is expected that the changes will apply from September 2013. Tenants who ask or agree to transfer to a smaller property will be given two offers of alternative housing. If they refuse both, they will have their rental subsidy recalculated and will end up paying more in order to stay in their current property.

Tenants who had already applied to transfer to a smaller property before June 25th 2013 will not have their rental subsidies recalculated if they refuse two offers of alternative housing.

More information about the policy can be accessed [here](#).

NSW Federation of Housing Associations Inc
Suite 301, 64-76 Kippax Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010 Australia | T +61 (0)2 9281
7144 | F +61 (0)2 9281 7603

About this e-mail: You've received this email from NSWFHA because you've expressed an interest in NSWFHA and have given NSWFHA permission to communicate with you via email, as advised in NSWFHA's [privacy policy and disclaimer](#). If you prefer not to receive email from NSWFHA in the future, simply [click here](#) to unsubscribe. For enquiries please visit our website www.communityhousing.org.au or contact Adam West on 9281 7144 ext 211 or nswfha@communityhousing.org.au.

