

## Federal Budget 2017

Last night the Federal Government delivered their budget. The Government's fact sheet on the new "National Housing and Homelessness Agreement" is available here [http://budget.gov.au/2017-18/content/glossies/factsheets/html/HA\\_17.htm](http://budget.gov.au/2017-18/content/glossies/factsheets/html/HA_17.htm). You will see that the National Affordable Housing Agreement and the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness have merged. If this Federal Budget measure is passed in the Senate, the good news is that homelessness funding will be secured for three years, and we will not need to campaign every twelve months and our agencies, workers and clients will not face the uncertainty and lack of continuity of recent times. There are no funding cuts in these areas, and payments will be indexed, but we are keenly aware that the funding is not sufficient to meet the needs of all South Australians who require assistance, or provide enough social housing to exit clients into affordable, safe housing.

There is also a lack of detail on how new bilateral agreements between the Federal and State Governments will work, and how outcomes will be measured. Shelter SA does not believe that the First Home Owner Super Saver Scheme or the Downsizer Scheme will assist people living on low incomes and we are disappointed that there is no real attempt to address negative gearing or capital gains tax concessions.

On a brighter note, some of the new incentives to increase private investment in affordable housing and social impact investing trials may benefit our [CapitalAsset](#) work, but without significant public investment in social housing, it is unlikely that we will be able to improve the shortfall in affordable housing for people living on low incomes. We will circulate the National Shelter budget analysis in the near future.