



#ShelterSABlog



Welcome to the second Shelter SA blog post! Here's the easy way to keep up with some of our activities, advocacy and happenings that you might not have heard about through our usual publications and ebulletins. There are more than 1200 people who subscribe to our mailing list, and we know that the readership stretches far and wide. We welcome everyone who wishes to subscribe, it's free, and we won't clog up your inbox with advertisements or material that's not directly relevant to housing. Subscribe by emailing sheltersa@sheltersa.asn.au.

As well as our extensive mailing list and well established networks, you may know that Shelter SA has several social media platforms that we use regularly to share our work, housing news, research, reports and advocacy – we hope that you will also follow us and show your support through sharing our messages on Facebook and Twitter.

In 2016, we've launched two major initiatives. Firstly, CapitalAsset – a safe way to transform community land assets into housing for our client groups – has been launched! CapitalAsset is a significant achievement for Shelter SA as the work attracts an extremely diverse range of people and interests – reflected in the attendee list of the launch there were mayors, members of parliament, developers, architects, builders, academics, not for profits, church groups, aged care providers, economists, social impact investors, bankers and intermediaries. Branching out to a different audience allows Shelter SA to diversify our supporter base and since the launch, there has been increasing momentum to create a first, live demonstration project. Stay tuned for more in 2017!

Our second exciting innovation was the realisation of our mobile phone app to assist young South Australians, you will have heard by now it is called "Pickle". Proudly funded by Community Benefit SA, we thanked Minister Zoe Bettison at the Pickle launch at the St. John's Youth Services conference in November, the app is free, quick and private and we encourage everyone to download it and share it as much as you can. Pickle has been received in an overwhelmingly positive way and everything you need to know about Pickle can be found here www.pickle.org.au and you can like and share Pickle's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PickleHelp/>.

Our boarding house research project is nearly finished and we are looking forward to releasing our report and recommendations next year, to coincide with a briefing for Minister Zoe Bettison. The Mental Health Commissioner is also asking for a presentation of the results and recommendations, recognising that there are high numbers of boarding house residents who are living with mental

health issues. We are also looking forward to sharing the results with the Mental Health Coalition of SA, other peak bodies and you! The policy settings around housing vulnerable people need our attention!

I'm pleased to let you know that I am the new Chairperson of National Shelter, the Australian peak body for housing. Of course we campaigned again with National Shelter and all the other Shelters around the country for the continuation of the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness. National Shelter organised an event at Parliament House in Canberra to reinstate the Parliamentary Friends of Affordable Housing and Homelessness, championed by Senators Lee Rhiannon and Doug Cameron. We were joined by Homelessness Australia and ACOSS to present the petitions for the Vote Home Campaign signed by more than 40,000 Australians and these will be presented in the Senate. The National Shelter team were there in force and it was great to see Senators and Ministers from all sides of politics lending their support to us!

Thanks for reading my blog – your feedback and questions are welcome via email alice.clark@sheltersa.asn.au and don't forget to join us on social media! With rumours rife about the future of the National Affordable Housing Agreement we are looking forward to cranking up the policy and advocacy machine.

Alice.

