

MAKE A SUBMISSION TO SAVE MELBOURNE'S PUBLIC HOUSING TOWERS

WHAT IS AN INQUIRY?

A parliamentary inquiry is an investigation by a committee made up of MPs into public issues. They hear evidence from experts and community members and put together recommendations for the government.

WHY MAKE A SUBMISSION?

It's really important MPs hear directly from the community about what they think about Labor's end to public housing. Anyone can make a submission, the more the better.

THE BASICS

- Submissions are open now until March 2025
- Your submission can be as long or as short as you like.
- You don't have to be an expert to tell your story
- You can submit a written, audio or video file
- Submit via the parliamentary website

THINGS YOU COULD COVER IN YOUR SUBMISSION

- What your connection is with public housing. What you like about your home and community, and what could be better.
- How Labor's decision to demolish public housing has affected you.
- Does Labor's reason for demolishing public housing make sense?
- Whether the Homes Victoria has consulted you about their plans.

FAQS

WHY IS LABOR DEMOLISHING PUBLIC HOUSING IN A HOUSING CRISIS?

Labor has failed to provide any documents to justify why they are doing this. They have said they are 'retiring' the towers because they are old but architects have verified that these buildings were built to last.

Planners, economists and housing experts agree that this is a disastrous plan.

WILL THE TOWERS BE REPLACED WITH PUBLIC HOUSING?

No. Most of these homes will be replaced with expensive private apartments, not public housing. Labor have said there will be some community housing. This project is part of Labor's plan to privatise prime land and end public housing.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HOUSING?

Public housing is 100% owned and operated by the government. Public residents pay 25% of their income towards rent and are covered by the human rights charter. Community housing is run by NGO's and is more expensive for residents. They pay 30% of their income + rent assistance.

AREN'T THE TOWERS IN DISREPAIR?

Labor has neglected maintenance and repairs in many of the buildings which has left some residents living in poor conditions. A recent report from not for profit architects OFFICE has shown how refurbishing the towers to modern living standards could actually save the government money.

DON'T WE NEED TO BUILD MORE HOMES?

The Government has lots of empty land around Melbourne that they are choosing to leave vacant. It doesn't make sense to demolish existing housing while over 100,000 people are currently waiting for a public home.

WHERE WILL PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS GO?

Residents will be moved out, away from their neighbours and communities. They have been told they have a 'right to return' if they are eligible for the replacement community housing. But for many rent will be unaffordable or they will be ineligible if housing isn't appropriate (e.g. women only housing or too small for their family).