

# Youth Housing and Homelessness

**A quarter of Tasmanians experiencing homelessness are aged between 12 and 24.<sup>1</sup> With 4,685 Tasmanians waiting in the housing waiting list,<sup>2</sup> services are struggling to cope with the increasing demand and young people are being left vulnerable and in traumatic environments. Urgent action is needed to address this crisis.**

## Youth Homelessness Action Plan

Tasmania's housing strategy has no focus on unaccompanied homeless children, or young people aged 12-25 facing homelessness.<sup>3</sup>

The needs of homeless young people are often unique, complex, and can't be suitably addressed by policy aimed at adults.<sup>4</sup>

**The Greens will fight for a Child and Youth Housing and Homelessness Plan to address the needs of young people extending to 25 years of age.**

## Transition From Care and Supported Accommodation

Young people leaving out of home care, or supported accommodation, are at particular risk of becoming homeless. Often, instability and complex life situations mean there is greater need to develop skills for independent living.

Young people in the out of home care system, or leaving supported accommodation, can have limited support networks to help them transition to independence.

**The Greens will fight for an additional funding for programs that help young people transition from out of home care into independent living.**

## Supported and Crisis Housing

The complex and varied nature of child and youth homelessness means that a range of accommodation options and services are required to provide them support.

Options include supported accommodation (independent living with support services), crisis accommodation (short-term accommodation) and transitional accommodation services (assisting homeless people to find long-term accommodation).

Tasmania currently has only 147 beds in supported accommodation through Youth2Independence facilities, and the Government has underinvested in crisis accommodation and transition accommodation services.

**The Greens will fight for government investment of at least \$15 million a year into supported accommodation, crisis accommodation and transitional accommodation services for young people.**

## Sector Engagement

Tasmania has just 2% of Australia's population, but 16% of daily unassisted requests for accommodation services come from the state.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Shelter Tasmania, [Homelessness in Tasmania](#), n.d.

<sup>2</sup> [Housing Dashboard](#), Homes Tasmania, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Ford, S, [Young and homeless: Youth peak body calls for special government plan](#), The Examiner, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Report on Government Services 2024, Part G, Section 19 [Homelessness Services](#), Table 19A.8, Productivity Commission, January 2024.

Services are stretched not only with demand, but the complexity of the cases young people facing homelessness often have.

**The Greens will fight for government engagement with youth homelessness service providers and stakeholders, to ensure organisational funding and workforce development is sustainable.**

## Increased Housing and Renting Rights

We have a [plan](#) to ensure 1,000 public housing homes are built each year. We will fight to make sure these homes are prioritised to the most vulnerable in the community, including young people transitioning from homelessness.

We also have a [plan](#) to improve rental availability by reining in short-stay, and a [plan](#) to improve renters' rights.

## Budget (\$m)

(\$m)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Strategy	0.12	-	-	-	0.12
Transition Support	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	4.00
Housing Options	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.12</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>64.12</b>

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