

Joint Champions Group 2012-14 Information for Applicants and Expression of Interest Form

The purpose of this form is to give Housing ACT tenants the opportunity to apply to be a member of the Joint Champions Group (JCG). **If you would like help with completing the form, please contact any of the following supports:**

- Tenants' Union ACT - 6247 1026
- ACT Shelter - 6247 3727
- Supportive Tenancy Service - 6207 2427
- Housing ACT Business Development Unit - 6207 8776

How we will select members for the JCG

The JCG for 2012-14 will be made up of approximately 25 Housing ACT tenants, representing a range of different backgrounds, ages and circumstances. Members will be chosen by a panel that will include:

- senior officers from Housing ACT; and
- two independent panel members from the community.

Each expression of interest will be read by the panel members, who will work together to choose the 25 JCG members. Each person on the panel will use the same guidelines for this process. These guidelines are listed on the following page.

Tenant Forums

In addition to the 25 JCG members, other tenants of Housing ACT are invited to participate in a number of Tenant Forums. These extra meetings will extend the work of the JCG by focussing on specific areas of interest or concern. There is space at the end of this form for you to include information about how you could contribute. All applicants for the JCG who are not selected for membership will be invited to participate in a Tenant Forum.

Reimbursement

All JCG members for the 2012-14 term will be entitled to a payment to cover their travel expenses and time. This payment will be \$50 per meeting attended.

Tenants who contribute to the work of the JCG through the Tenant Forums are also entitled to this reimbursement for each Forum they attend.

Training

All JCG members will receive training to develop skills in working together as a group. There will also be the opportunity for members to receive some mentoring from senior officers of Housing ACT. This will provide extra support for individuals who would like to work towards specific goals that are relevant to the work of the JCG.

Information session

There will be a general information session held at Nature Conservation House in Belconnen on **Tuesday 17 January 2012, at 2pm.**

Selection Guidelines

The guidelines for choosing members for the JCG (below) will be used to assess each application. Please read these carefully before completing the questions on the following pages.

Guidelines for choosing members for the JCG

A member of the JCG should be:

- a tenant of Housing ACT;
- enthusiastic about working with Housing ACT to resolve issues and develop possible solutions that can benefit all tenants (not just JCG members);
- prepared to read information about different issues and give feedback (assistance with reading/writing can be provided if you need help);
- committed to attending meetings regularly;
- able to share ideas and be open to listening to the ideas of others;
- respectful of different views brought to the group by other members and by officers of Housing ACT; and
- willing to listen to other tenants and bring their concerns or ideas to the JCG.

How do I complete my expression of interest form?

1. Fill in your contact details and answer the questions on the following pages:
Expression of Interest form for the JCG 2012-14.
2. Post your completed expression of interest form to:
JCG Secretariat, Housing ACT, Locked Bag 3000, Belconnen, ACT 2616
or email it to: HousingJointChampions@act.gov.au.
3. Please note that forms are to be received by Housing ACT no later than 31 January 2012.

Accessibility

The ACT Government is committed to making its information, services, events and venues, accessible to as many people as possible.

If you have difficulty reading a standard printed document and would like to receive this publication in an **alternative format** – such as large print or audio – please telephone **(02) 6205 0619**.

If English is not your first language and you require the **translating and interpreting services** – please telephone **131 450**.

If you are deaf or hearing impaired and require the **TTY typewriter service**– please telephone **(02) 6205 0888**

Expression of Interest form for the JCG 2012-14

Name	
Postal Address	
Phone (h)..... (mob)
Email	
I am a public housing tenant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (the Joint Champions Group is a forum for Housing ACT tenants only)
Applicant's signature	
Date	

1. Do you have ideas about how/where there could be improvements in Housing ACT?

These ideas could be based on your own situation or the experiences of others, but should focus on ways that Housing ACT can make changes to benefit all tenants.

We are looking for ideas about improving the way that Housing ACT works as an organisation (systemic issues), rather than ones based on personal issues. Please describe one or more of your ideas.

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2. a) Are you willing, and do you have time, to read papers sent by post or email and provide feedback within a specific time frame? You could include examples of how you have provided written feedback in the past (eg a survey from your child’s school).

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b) If you need extra help with reading or writing, please describe how we could best support you.

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3. Have you participated in any tenant groups in the past (including the JCG)? Have you participated in other groups in the community, such as a playgroup, gardening group, or local sports club? Please describe any experience you have with group participation.

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4. a) Describe your strengths in contributing to a group. For example, you may feel confident about speaking in a group setting, or perhaps you are good at providing written feedback. In your answer, you may like to give examples of how you have used these strengths in the past.

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b) If you don't feel confident about some of the tasks involved in contributing to a group, please let us know how we could best support you (eg you may prefer to take part in small-group discussions, rather than larger ones).

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5. Are you good at listening to the views of others? Can you be tolerant of different opinions, and patient when listening to other people speak? Please give examples of how you are able to listen to others (eg how you interact with a neighbour or family member who thinks differently about an issue that is important to you).

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6. Have you read the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Joint Champions Group? A copy of the TOR is enclosed.

I have read the TOR and agree to follow the Code of Conduct.

7. a) If you are not chosen as a JCG member, would you be willing to contribute to the work of the JCG through a Tenant Forum?

Yes

No

b) Please indicate if you have an interest or some knowledge/experience in any of the possible Forum topics below (you may tick more than one). This is just a list of suggestions, so please add others if you would like to see different Forum topics. This information will be used by the JCG members to decide on topics for Tenant Forums that will take place during 2012-14. All Housing ACT tenants are welcome to contribute to these Forums.

I would like to contribute to a Tenant Forum about the needs of:

- older people
- young people
- people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds
- people with a physical or intellectual disability
- women and children
- single parents
- other (please describe)

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I would like to contribute to a Tenant Forum about:

- improving Housing ACT procedures (the way things are done)
- improving communication between Housing ACT and its tenants
- other (please describe)

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