



dhcs | ACT

Exploring home ownership

For public housing tenants earning higher than average incomes, home ownership may be a realistic option.

Over the next three years, we believe that some hundreds of tenants could be in a position to buy their current homes, many with assistance from Housing ACT.

By purchasing your home you would not only be able to enjoy the benefits of home ownership, but would be helping Canberrans who are less well off and who urgently require public housing.

This is because the proceeds from the 'Sale to Tenant' scheme allow Housing ACT to acquire new properties. These are of a size and type and in locations being requested by new tenants, as well as existing tenants, who require more suitable family homes.



If you wish to purchase your home immediately, I would encourage you to talk it over with Housing ACT, at the earliest opportunity. In doing so, however, you should be aware that there are some properties that are unable to be sold.

Housing ACT would also like to talk to tenants who are thinking about purchasing their home. They'd particularly like to explain how a new 'shared equity' scheme—to be introduced next year—might assist them.

While the details of the scheme are still being finalised, it will make it easier for tenants to buy their current home because Housing ACT may be prepared to share some of the equity.

There are other incentives for which you may be eligible, including the First Home Owners Grant, and ACT Government Stamp Duty Concessions.

In promoting home ownership, however, we appreciate that for some tenants it would not be a sensible or appropriate option, irrespective of their income.

If you are considering home ownership now, or in the next few years, please ring our Housing Information Officer via T: 13 DHCS (13 34 27).

John Hargreaves MLA
ACT Minister for Housing
August 2007