



**Aboriginal
Housing
Office**



Sustainability and Investment Initiative factsheet

19 August 2024

What is SII?

The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) is committed to supporting the growth of a viable Aboriginal Community Housing Sector to ensure Aboriginal people have access to affordable, quality housing. The Subsidy and Investment team is leading the delivery of SII which is working towards moving away from High Cost Community Support Payment (HCCSP) Policy (closed subsidy program) into a model that focuses on sustainability, data driven investment opportunities and open for all AHO registered providers.

Why is HCCSP being renamed as SII?

The HCCSP is an old policy legacy (Build and Grow) that's no longer adequately supporting the sector effectively. Past consultations and learnings from the Aboriginal Community Housing Sector has identified the need for a more informed and improved policy approach for sector subsidy and investment by AHO.

Renaming the project SII involves reviewing the HCCSP Policy, with a key focus on ensuring valued consultation is undertaken with the sector. Several new tools are proposed to enhance data capture, including a root cause analysis, Investment and Sustainability Plan (ISP), Investment and Performance Model and Financial Forecasting Model. Enhanced data will help the AHO make future investment decisions to shape the sector and help providers inform their decision making.

What will replace the HCCSP Policy?

SII is working towards comprehensive sector consultation regarding a new policy design in 2024, focused on an outcome investment model linked with best practice of tenancy and asset management, provider viability, strengthening performance, provider reporting economic and social returns.

When will the HCCSP Policy end?

The final payment of HCCSP to current providers is planned to end with financial year (FY) 2025-26 as the new Subsidy and Investment Policy will start to be used by AHO.

Are there changes to HCCSP subsidy funding?

In response to requests from the sector, subsidy funding will transition to one annual payment that will commence in FY2024-25. Eligible portfolios are expected to receive this payment between 30 September 2024 and 31 October 2024, where all funding agreement conditions are met, including required reporting.



The AHO did not fully implement the planned HCCSP funding model, due to delays in sector engagement in FY2023-24. In response to this, transitional funding for FY2023-24 period had been extended. Subsidy payments will transition to the HCCSP funding model and be assessed on a portfolio basis, which as a result will see a reduction in funding in FY2024-25 and FY2025-26.

This approach is supporting the moving away from the former subsidy model and provide opportunities for reinvestment into other AHO programs, where the need is the greatest to support sustainability of the sector. The team will be in contact with all current HCCSP funding recipients, both managing and owning providers to discuss individual portfolio funding.

What are the benefits?

- Business strategy options made available to providers to improve business models, revenue, expenses, performance, sustainability, and investment partnering.
- Broadening the discussion regarding accountability and performance to include cultural, social, and economic considerations.
- Strengthening partnerships for greater visibility, collective impact and collaboration toward sector viability, investment, and more social and affordable housing opportunities for community.
- Individual ISPs for housing portfolios, building evidence of priorities for local investment decisions and support portfolios via holistic root cause analysis.
- Uplift in portfolio sustainability and future growth decisions guided by new sector benchmarks, needs analysis and forecasting tools.
- AHO and Government as an investment partner, can evaluate more evidence, explore, and propose outcome investment interests.
- Driving positive impacts towards Strong Family, Strong Communities pillars.
- Outcomes driven budgeting embedded and supported for the Aboriginal Community Housing Sector.
- Provide an improved data collection and reporting method, offering more complete picture of provider, portfolio performance data and sharing data easier through Ngamuru.
- A future of visible reported outcomes by providers for their tenants and communities.

What are the next steps for SII?

In FY2023-24 was a critical period for the project to develop and socialise SII, start listen and learn with key stakeholders to gather evidence to shape policy thinking.

In FY2024-25, the team will continue to consult on key aspects of SII with sector via a piloting phase and full implementation period with AHO registered providers. We look forward to working with your organisation ensuring the SII supports positive outcomes for Aboriginal tenants.

Contact us

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