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### From our CEO's desk

This month, CEO Fiona Caniglia shares reflections on her visit to the Torres Strait, and the impact of the places and people she met there. She also comments on funding uncertainty and highlights recent action taken, and calls attention to upcoming Q Shelter activity including a Training Needs Analysis.

[Follow Q Shelter and Fiona on LinkedIn](#) for all our up-to-the-minute news.

[Click to read the full article on LinkedIn and share with your networks.](#)



*Fiona Caniglia*  
Chief Executive Officer

### CEO and Senior Leaders Forum

#### Less than 3 weeks to secure your tickets

Places are limited for the CEO and Senior Leaders Forum and Lunch on 24 June. Our line-up of speakers for this event will cover local government perspectives, housing response, national analysis, the national advocacy agenda, growth barriers and opportunities, as well as our usual updates from the sector.

[Join us at Brisbane City Hall on Wednesday 24 June.](#)

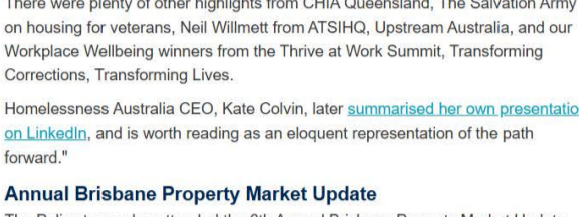
### Community & Sector Networking

**Tuesday 23 June 5pm - 7:30pm Brisbane City Hall**  
Join us for canapés, beverages and live music, with short presentations from the sector, and the Hon. Sam O'Connor MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works, and Jackson Hills as the new CEO of National Shelter.

Don't miss the opportunity to meet and mix with our state-wide regional representatives, and colleagues new and old working across diverse sectors and roles.

[Secure your tickets now.](#)

#### Sponsor profile: Bluebird



A special thank you to our top tier sponsor, **Bluebird**. Partnering with us since 2024, Bluebird specialises in the development of social and affordable housing and master-planned precincts. Bluebird are helping drive better housing outcomes across the state.

Bluebird Founder and Managing Director, Rylee Arai-Coupe, will present on 'Growth barriers and opportunities: A view of the horizon' at the CEO and Leaders Forum on 24 June.

### Policy and Strategic Engagement

**Homelessness Queensland Conference, Cairns**  
Our new General Manager, [Leah Griggs](#), attended the recent Homelessness Queensland Conference in Cairns.

"It was a full schedule over three days, with up to 10 presentations per day packed in.

We heard the Minister for Housing and Public Works, reinforce the government's recent announcements around youth foyers and the Rent to Buy scheme for Palm Island going live on 1 July. It was also reassuring to hear him talk of a strong Olympic and Paralympic legacy, with more details to be available in the coming months.

There were plenty of other highlights from CHA Queensland, The Salvation Army on housing for veterans, Neil Willmetts from ATSIHQ, Upstream Australia, and our Workplace Wellbeing winners from the Thrive at Work Summit, Transforming Connections, Transforming Lives.

Homelessness Australia CEO, Kate Colvin, later [summarised her own presentation on LinkedIn](#), and is worth reading as an eloquent representation of the path forward."

#### Annual Brisbane Property Market Update

The Policy team also attended the 8th Annual Brisbane Property Market Update hosted by Elevate Residential, featuring Tim Lawless from Colality Australia. The discussion highlighted emerging signs of market stability, ongoing affordability pressures, construction challenges, and the growing importance of affordable housing delivery.

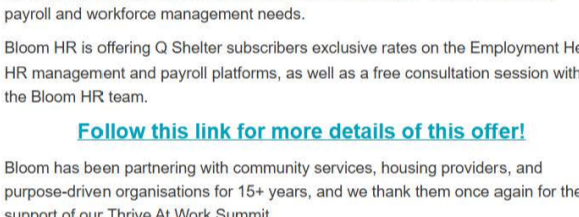
It was encouraging to hear about the BHC Creating Liveable Communities Impact Fund, which has seen more than \$1 million directed back into tenant and community outcomes through a profit-for-purpose model.

#### National Youth Mental Health Framework

Q Shelter has also contributed to a recent workshop for the development of a National Youth Mental Health Framework, led by Australian Catholic University, the Queensland Family and Child Commission and PeakCare.

During discussions, our Policy and Strategic Engagement Lead, Maya Glassman, highlighted the importance of recognising housing instability and homelessness as key factors affecting the wellbeing of children and young people. The conversation reinforced the need for stronger connections between housing, homelessness, child safety and mental health systems if we are to improve outcomes for vulnerable young people.

### Housing Legacy Seminar Series



#### Session 3: Tuesday 9 June 4pm - 5:30pm

This third webinar will focus on the critical role of athlete villages in delivering lasting housing outcomes, exploring how village design, delivery, and policy reform can turn short-term event infrastructure into long-term community benefit.

The session will feature three expert speakers bringing international, research, policy and design perspectives:

- Dr Julia Lawson will speak on the Paris Olympic Games athlete village and its post-Games transition into a mixed residential neighbourhood including social and affordable housing.
- Leona Roche will share insights from the major mixed-use and housing projects across East London.
- Jonathan Knapp will explore how athlete village design can translate into a lasting housing legacy.

[Free registration is available now.](#)

### Thrive At Work Summit wrap-up

What an incredible day we had at our inaugural **Thrive At Work Summit** on 14 May! The atmosphere in the room was truly inspiring, with meaningful conversations, genuine connection and so much energy shared throughout the day. From our perspective, it was a success to see people from across the sector come together to explore workplace wellbeing, resilience, leadership and what it really means to thrive at work.

People told us they left feeling inspired, and we were deeply encouraged by the level of engagement, honesty and enthusiasm in the room.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, contributed and helped make the day such a success.

We are excited to build on this momentum and can't wait to continue the conversation at the next event. In the meantime, check out some of the highlights from the day below.



### Special offer from Bloom HR

We're excited to share our Thrive at Work Summit Platinum Partner **Bloom HR** has an exclusive offer for Q Shelter subscribers, to support your organisation's HR, payroll and workforce management needs.

Bloom HR is offering Q Shelter subscribers exclusive rates on the Employment Hero HR management and payroll platforms, as well as a free consultation session with the Bloom HR team.

[Follow this link for more details of this offer!](#)

Bloom has been partnering with community services, housing providers, and purpose-driven organisations for 15+ years, and we thank them once again for their support of our Thrive At Work Summit.



### Community Housing Futures, Queensland



#### Latest General Grant Stream results

Last month, the Community Housing Futures Program announced the results of the latest grant round, with 17 community housing providers sharing \$2.3 million in grants to support growth and capacity-building activities across Queensland.

The fact that the funding round was significantly oversubscribed, attracting 44 applications, highlighted the commitment and readiness of community housing providers to scale up and contribute to housing supply solutions.

The General Grant Stream focuses on supporting community housing providers that are growth-ready or likely to grow, with the aim of increasing the delivery of social and affordable housing within the next three-to-five years, including through strategic partnerships.

You can [read our full announcement for a list of the organisations](#) who were successful in this latest General Grant Stream.

### Diploma of Leadership and Management

#### Enrolments are now open for 2026-2027

Thanks to everyone who completed the expression of interest for the next intake for the Diploma of Leadership and Management. With an overwhelmingly positive response, [enrolments are now open](#).

This nationally recognised qualification is delivered as one-day virtual workshop for self-paced learning, over 12 months starting **Monday 13 July 2026**. The sessions are followed by work-related learning that includes scenarios, negotiated workplace activities, work related projects and simulations/roleplays.

### Trauma-informed practice workshop

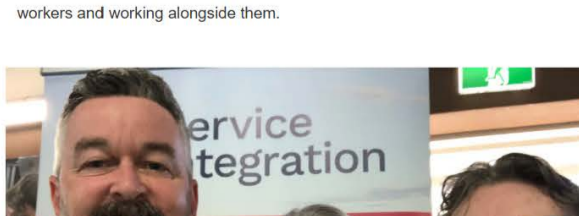
#### In-person Tue 1 Sep 9am-3pm, online follow-up 8 Sep 2pm-1pm

Join Q Shelter's first trauma-informed practice workshop, providing a practical and accessible introduction to trauma-informed practice, grounded in contemporary theory and real-world application.

Facilitated by Monica Lord, an accredited Mental Health Social Worker and lecturer in Social Work at Griffith University. Designed for frontline workers across homelessness, health, social services, and community settings, this workshop equips participants with the knowledge and tools to respond to distress in ways that promote safety, trust, and connection.

Check [ticket prices, including Q Shelter and ATSIHQ member discounts, and book through Eventbrite](#).

### Housing First Nations conference 2026



#### Last chance for discounted registration

Register today or the Housing First Nations 2026 National Conference, being held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre 19-21 October 2026.

June is your last chance to secure tickets at a special early bird rate, saving you \$400 off the full ticket price. [Visit the event website, and book your tickets today.](#)

**Can't find the training you're looking for?**  
Register your interest in a future training session  
From Trauma Informed Care and Mental Health First Aid to Supervision Training and Tenancy Sustainment – you can [add your name to our training waitlist](#) to be the first to hear when the next session is scheduled.

### Membership Matters

#### News for Q Shelter members and their staff

We've received an overwhelming response from members who are keen to continue their membership under the new legal structure of a company limited by guarantee. Thanks to everyone who responded and emailed us your support.

Over the coming weeks, we will make our submission to the regulator, ASIC, to move ahead with this change from Queensland Shelter Inc. to Q Shelter Ltd, and we will be notifying all members directly to keep you informed of progress.

Find out [more about becoming a Q Shelter member](#) on our website.

### Changes to SCHADS Award sleepover shifts

#### Update from the Fair Work Commission

This week saw changes come into effect to sleepovers in the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Award (SCHADS Award). These changes impact how rostering and pay work for shifts that require an employee to stay overnight at the same location as the client, in particular:

- ordinary hours of work
- rest breaks between rostered work
- shift allowances and penalty rates.

The changes took effect from an employee's first full pay period starting on or after 1 June 2026. Find out more information about the changes and how they may impact your organisation, at the [Fair Work Ombudsman's website](#).

### Research participants needed

**Delivering housing solutions that meet older people's housing aspirations**  
Researchers from Curtin University are wanting to speak to people aged over 55 years about their housing aspirations. Specifically, if you are living in Queensland, New South Wales or Western Australia, living on a low income and are not a home owner they would like to interview you for 1-hour online or by phone at a time that suits you.

The research is being carried out as part of a PhD project by Maggie Shambrook, known to many in the sector and connected to the Housing Older Women Movement.

[Visit the expressions of interest form, or contact Maggie](#) for more information.

### Service Integration

#### Facilitator Profile: Phil Smith, Brisbane South

When did you start as a Service Integration (SI) Facilitator?

I started in January 2021. I've been doing work related to housing and homelessness and mental health / AOD support since the mid-90s.



What drew you to this role?

The possibilities of making some real change working as part of the peak body for housing and homelessness.

When someone asks you what SI is, what do you say?

At its core, it's a multi-disciplinary network looking for housing and appropriate support for households who are homeless, or insecurely housed. But it's also a community of practice and a network connecting services and sharing information.

What's your favourite thing about working as a SI Facilitator?

Learning from all the experienced, skilled people I have contact with.

What's the biggest challenge in your region right now?

Simply put - it's the lack of affordable housing!

Finally, what motivates you to keep you going each day?

Seeing good outcomes for the households referred. Connections with other workers and working alongside them.



Phil with other members of the Brisbane South Service Integration network

#### Region contact and referral information

You can find details of the Service Integration groups operating around Queensland, including contact details and how to access referrals on [The Deck](#).

### Career Opportunities

Q Shelter Member organisations and partners are recruiting for the following vacancies.

- [Dept of Housing and Public Works: Senior Housing Officer](#), Toowoomba
- [Anglicare SQ: Recovery Practitioner - Women Accommodation](#), Brisbane
- [Community Housing Provider: Housing Coordinator](#), Slacks Creek
- [Douglas Shire Aged Persons Home: Housing Manager](#), Mossman
- [Community Housing Provider: Housing and Communities Officer](#), Brisbane

Don't forget that you can list job vacancies for free anytime on The Deck:

[thedeck.org.au/jobs](#)

### Closing Quote

**"These reforms are an important first step toward a fairer housing system after decades of policies stacked against renters and aspiring homeowners. They may not be perfect – but they matter."**

[Margaret Quixley](#), Everypbody's Home Campaign Manager, following the [Federal Government's proposed tax reform changes](#).



Thanks for signing up to Q Shelter's newsletter and regular updates. Check our social media channels above to follow us for more regular updates, or to share our stories with your colleagues and networks.