

tasmanian youth forum 2024

housing

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What you told us you need to access and keep a safe, affordable and appropriate home.

“Housing in Tasmania could be the key to supporting young people who are having a hard start in life, or don't have access to a safe and supported home if done correctly.”

“What makes a house a home is where and when everyone feels respected, safe, comfortable and loved. Everyone feels that they have a voice to how they live and go about life.”

“Somewhere safe, dry and warm to stay. Somewhere where they can unwind and relax after a hard day.”

A house needs to...

- ! provide shelter from bad weather and have good heating and cooling.
- ! be affordable, allowing you to afford other living expenses.
- ! be close to public transport, essential services and support networks.
- ! have enough space for everyone, and have a working kitchen and bathroom.
- ! have mobile phone reception and be connected to the internet.



But most importantly, a home is where we should feel **safe, secure** and **private**. It's a place where we feel **loved, valued** and **supported**, and that we **belong**.

Issues with housing.



- X High rent, low wages and a shortage of affordable properties make it hard to break into the rental market.
- X It feels less like a 'home' when you can't have a pet or make minor changes when renting.
- X Landlords can discriminate against you for being young.
- X Many of us don't know or fully understand our rights and responsibilities as renters until something happens.
- X We often don't know what supports are available to help with housing or how to access them.
- X Not having or being able to afford your own home makes it hard to be independent and continue studying after year 12, especially when you don't have a strong support system.



“I feel like youth do not have the “on paper” requirements of getting into any form of rental. Having the references, jobs, stability and more is what gets you into a rental. Not a lot of youth have those opportunities. Things are becoming so much more expensive so it's hard for anyone to afford anything right now, rentals, groceries, fuel, childcare, school, so many things are contributing to youth not having suitable housing!”

“[How can I] compete in a highly competitive market often with investors with large portfolios taking advantage of negative gearing benefits?”

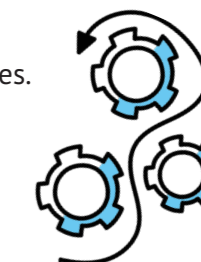
“...if there is support out there we don't know where or how to access it. We also can't afford to pay fees to get financial literacy help. There needs to be more taught in public education about things like housing, taxes, employment, life skills etc. and less subjects or information that never gets used in day-to-day life.”

“We need more money invested into the youth of Tasmania. We are really struggling with the cost of living crisis, minimum wage, high rent, poor mental health, and unfair (and unrealistic) expectations put onto us by older generations. Please help make it possible for us to find affordable, safe homes to rent, and possibly one day even buy.”

What needs to happen.



- ✓ Government needs to work **WITH US** to address housing problems.
- ✓ Make policies that help us get into long-term, stable housing options, including home ownership.
- ✓ More education to help us prepare for the world – like renting, life skills, bills and budgeting, buying a house, building and trade skills, career pathway planning etc.
- ✓ More youth homeless shelters and crisis support, especially in rural areas.
- ✓ Tell us about services and resources that can help.
- ✓ Protect our rights as renters from dodgy landlords, age-based discrimination, and excessive rental increases and property inspections.
- ✓ More supports that help ease cost of living, like utilities, fresh food, clothing, transport and essential services.
- ✓ Create youth drop ins and safe spaces for us to get and find help. More community events and opportunities that celebrate diversity and are welcoming to us.
- ✓ Create youth-friendly housing options that:
 - ➔ are close to public transport and essential services.
 - ➔ have youth and social workers to help us.
 - ➔ charges no more than 30% of our income.
 - ➔ supports us to become independent.



Speak up. Be heard. Drive change.



What is TYF?

A free statewide event for young people 12-25 years to share their ideas and solutions on what is needed to access and keep a safe, appropriate and affordable home.