Elliot McAdam  
MINISTER FOR HOUSING

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Housing Ministers Meet In Darwin

Housing Minister Elliot McAdam will meet with his State, Territory and Federal counterparts at the Housing Ministers Conference starting in Darwin tomorrow.

Mr McAdam said tackling housing affordability nationally will be a key item of discussion.

“Nation wide, there is a growing decline in housing affordability and we have a real opportunity here to address this issue,” said the Minister.

“This week the States and Territories will be seeking an agreement with the Federal Government to sign a new six point plan to tackle housing affordability.

“The plan addresses ways to improve the social housing sector, affordability for renters, access to home ownership and housing opportunities for indigenous people.

“Extra pressure has been placed on people wishing to own a home since the last Federal election with four interest rate rises.

“The Federal Government can put policies in place to help address housing affordability nationally, so I will be working with my State and Territory colleagues to push this forward.

“Increasing funding under the new Commonwealth State Housing Agreement will be another item high on the agenda.

“The Federal Government has a surplus that runs into billions - yet they have not increased their social housing funding to the States and Territories since coming to power eleven years ago.

“The Territory also needs to see long-term commitment by the Federal Government in area of remote indigenous housing.

“The Martin Government has invested an additional $100 million in indigenous housing.

“The NT Government is also running the innovative housing project aiming to drive down the price of construction and create training and development opportunities in the bush.

“We’re making money go further to meet the challenges of social housing, but it’s crunch time for increased Commonwealth investment and policy initiatives,” Mr McAdam said.
Federal Housing Minister Mal Brough will not be attending the conference due to other priorities.

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