



Australian Government



Northern
Territory
Government

A New Remote Housing System

Better Houses, Healthy Homes

More Focus on Repairs and Maintenance

The Australian and Northern Territory Governments are working together on a new housing system for remote communities, so people can live in healthier and safer homes. This will mean improvements to the service delivery for housing repairs and maintenance in remote communities, which will help ensure the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Territorians.

The new system will see Territory Housing responsible for the delivery of all housing repairs and maintenance in remote communities. The new Shire Councils have been offered a grant to continue to deliver repairs and maintenance on behalf of Territory Housing. This arrangement will allow more time to establish formal agreements with the Shire Councils.

After a transitional period, repairs and maintenance in remote communities will be managed through formal agreements with Shire Councils where local subcontractors will be used to carry out the work on the ground in communities.

The repairs and maintenance system will also deliver a range of benefits for communities, including:

- An easier way for tenants to report faults and request housing maintenance.
- Safer and healthier houses for remote community people, as houses will be gradually repaired and maintained on a regular basis.
- New jobs in Shire Councils for local Indigenous people, as Councils will build and maintain a local workforce to carry out repairs and maintenance over a minimum of two years. This will build the skills and capacity of the Territory's Indigenous workforce.



The Shire Council arrangements will only affect remote communities impacted by the new local government changes or where the Australian Government holds five year land leases in remote communities. Housing in the following communities, Tara, Binjari, Acacia Larrakia, Belyuen, Robinson River, Amanbidji, Bulla and Kybrook Farm, will be managed by Outstation Resource Centres or other community organisations under a separate grant program for the 2008/09 financial year.

Consultation with communities will continue to be an important element of the new remote housing system and all remote communities were visited by Territory Housing before the new repairs and maintenance arrangements came into effect. There will be ongoing consultation to make sure that people understand the changes and what they mean for their community.

There will be a stronger Territory Housing presence in remote communities. Territory Housing staff will be the link with communities for all areas of remote housing, such as tenancy management, repairs and maintenance, land tenure and construction.

If you would like more information about the new repairs and maintenance system, call 1800 104 076 and ask to speak with Mike Simpson or Sas Clark.

Information current as at 08 January 2009



Mike Simpson is the Senior Director of Corporate Real Estate and is responsible for strategic planning and program management leading to positive social outcomes for people in public, government employee and remote housing.



Sas Clark is the Deputy Director Asset Performance Remote within Corporate Real Estate. Sas is responsible for the coordination and delivery of the repairs and maintenance and minor new works programs that will be delivered to remote communities through the new Shires.

