



## Your Housing Needs

### Where do you want to live?

Decide if you need to live near:

- transport (check transport routes by going to the website [www.131500.info](http://www.131500.info))
- services (e.g. shops, doctors and hospitals, schools, childcare etc)
- friends and family (can they get to you easily and you to them).

It is important to find out which areas have properties for rent at a price you can afford. You may need to consider a range of locations.

If you need to move to a completely new area, the local council or neighbourhood centre can tell you about services in that area.

You can find out where a property is and how to get there by going to the website [www.whereis.com.au](http://www.whereis.com.au).

### What sort of home do you need?

- How many bedrooms do you need?
- Do you prefer a house, a flat, or a townhouse?
- Do you need to live on the ground floor or could you live in an apartment with a lift?
- Do you need a property where pets are allowed?
- What other things are you looking for (a fenced garden, parking, a garage)?

### How much rent can you afford?

An affordable rent is where you still have enough money left to pay your other household expenses, such as food, bills, credit cards, transport, etc after you have paid your rent. To do this you need to plan a budget.

If your expected expenses are more than your income you may need help to revise your budget, see where you might save, or look for a property in a more affordable area.

Tools and help to work out a budget are available on these websites:

- Financial Counsellors Association of NSW  
<http://www.financialcounsellors.asn.au>  
Budget Planner:  
<http://www.financialcounsellors.asn.au/BudgetPlanner.xls>
- Wesley Mission Credit Line Money Plan  
<http://www.wesleymission.org.au/centres/creditline/plan.asp>
- ANZ Bank's MoneyMinded Program  
Budget tool  
<http://www.moneyminded.com.au/documents/MyBudget.xls>

### Interpreter Services

If you have difficulty understanding English, contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450. The Translating and Interpreting Service will telephone Housing NSW for you at no cost.

#### Arabic

خدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفهية المجانية  
اتصل على الرقم 131 450

#### Chinese

免費的翻譯傳譯服務  
致電 131 450

#### Russian

Служба бесплатного письменного и устного перевода  
Позвоните по номеру 131 450

#### Spanish

Servicio Gratuito de Traducción e Interpretación  
Llame al 131 450

#### Vietnamese

Dịch vụ Phiên dịch và Thông dịch Miễn phí  
Điện thoại 131 450

It is illegal for an officer of Housing NSW to ask for money or favours or other benefits of any kind in exchange for helping you with your housing needs.

It is also illegal for you or anyone else to offer money or favours or other benefits of any kind to an officer of Housing NSW in exchange for helping you.

If you have any information regarding this, please contact **Housing NSW's Business Assurance Unit on 1800 806 206**. Housing NSW may refuse the provision of further housing services to anyone who has engaged or sought to engage in corrupt or illegal conduct.

