



# WA Rent Relief Program

To help keep the WA economy strong for the long-term and to support those in our community who are doing it tough, the WA Government is providing a \$24.4 million package to fund the **WA Rent Relief Program**, to make a real difference to West Australians in need.

The Program will provide one-off rent relief payments to help eligible tenants who are at risk of eviction because their rent is in arrears, to negotiate with their landlords to extend their tenancy.

## Recognising financial stress

Many Western Australians are experiencing financial stress due to rising rent payments and cost-of-living pressures. The WA Government understands these difficulties and the current pressures in the WA rental market which is why this Program has been funded to support vulnerable Western Australians to remain in their private rental homes.

## Supporting those most vulnerable

The Program will begin in December 2023 and will run in conjunction with other initiatives to increase housing supply and support private tenants in WA.

The WA Government is working with key community service organisations starting with Anglicare WA and Vinnies WA to identify tenants in need of assistance through their existing services and networks and assist those tenants in applying for relief.



### What the Program offers:

- One-off payments for rent arrears and/or future rent. Future rent will be paid through a co-contribution model, which requires the tenant to demonstrate their commitment to the tenancy by paying 50 per cent or more of the weekly rent.
- Support to negotiate continuation of lease agreement with landlords.
- Rent relief paid direct to landlord if agreement is made to continue the tenancy.
- Additional social supports and advocacy for those in housing stress.

### Eligibility includes:

To qualify for the Program, private tenants must be:

- behind in rent putting them at risk of eviction; and
- in rental stress.

### More information:

Further information is available via [www.wa.gov.au/WA-rent-relief](http://www.wa.gov.au/WA-rent-relief).

If you are experiencing financial difficulty, contact National Debt Helpline via 1800 007 007.