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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

Guy Barnett, Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing

Jo Palmer, Minister for Women

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Partnering to better understand housing challenges faced by Tasmanian women and children

The Tasmanian Government will partner with Shelter Tasmania to undertake a dedicated Women's Housing Research Report to inform the Government's 20-year Tasmanian Housing Strategy, announced at the Shelter Tasmania Annual General Meeting yesterday.

Shelter Tasmania will investigate the challenges that women and their children experience in finding safe and affordable housing in Tasmania and identify possible solutions for consideration by Government.

The Tasmanian Housing Strategy will be a 20-year blueprint to help guide our commitment of 10,000 new and affordable homes over the next 10 years.

Through \$50,000 of funding from the Tasmanian Government, Shelter Tasmania will examine the particular needs of women, identifying any specific issues and inequalities faced by them in seeking safe, secure and affordable housing.

There are many Tasmanians who are struggling to find safe and affordable accommodation, with some women and children needing to stay for longer periods in shelters because they are finding it challenging to find more permanent accommodation.

Shelter Tasmania is ideally placed to undertake this research project, which will examine the needs of women at different life stages, income levels and circumstances, drawing on economic, gender and housing data to develop recommendations.

These recommendations will inform the Government's 20-year Tasmanian Housing Strategy, which will guide the types of accommodation we build in the future, along with how and where these new homes will be built.

Minister Guy Barnett commented "I'd like to thank the CEO of Shelter Tasmania, Pattie Chugg, for her advocacy and dedication to addressing the barriers women and their children experience."

Pattie Chugg welcomed the announcement, stating:

“This is important research that will help to better understand and manage the impact of the Tasmanian housing crisis on women and their children.

“We will be leading this work with Hobart Women's Shelter, in partnership with the State Government and Homes Tasmania. We look forward to developing a nation leading gendered analysis to inform and guide the Tasmanian Housing Strategy.”

The Tasmanian Government's new statutory authority, Homes Tasmania, which commences on 1 December this year, will work closely with Shelter Tasmania as it progresses this work.