

20 September 2016

The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP  
Minister for Family & Community Services and Minister for Social Housing

### **Insufficient public consultation**

We note that FACS has not released a discussion paper on the introduction of rental bonds for public housing. KLC understands that some organisations have been provided with a confidential draft Policy and Operational Framework. We have not had access to this draft document.

We note that in line with best practice policy development, it is our view that FACS should consult widely with stakeholders, including public housing tenants, on major policy changes such as this. We would welcome the opportunity to be provided with the draft Policy and Operational Framework and to provide comments on the policy.

#### **Recommendation**

We recommend that FACS consult widely with stakeholders, including public housing tenants and Kingsford Legal Centre.

### **Imposing a rental bond will exacerbate financial hardship and lead to homelessness**

In 2013, 77% of allocations to public rental housing went to people in the greatest financial hardship, particularly those who were homeless or at risk of homelessness

Recommendation

We recommend that further research into the impact of imposing a housing bond be undertaken before deciding to impose requirement of entering into a rental bond on public housing tenants.

**Public housing repair and maintenance issues**

As we were not provided with the confidential draft, it is unclear to us

Recommendation

We recommend that the potential impact on sur