# Policy updates July 25th – 5th August 2022

## Rental Reform update

The Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA) is launching an education campaign to increase Queensland’s residential rental sector’s understanding of the new [rental law changes](https://www.rta.qld.gov.au/rental-law-changes) coming into effect from 1 October 2022.

This education campaign will have a strong focus on providing information and resources on all the key changes, including:

* new laws around ending tenancies
* the new framework for renting with pets
* new repair order requirements, and
* other important amendments related to tenancy obligations.

The Queensland Government has released the [Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Amendment Regulation 2022](https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/asmade/sl-2022-0095) (RTRA Amendment Regulation) which provides further information about the tenancy law changes.

Information and helpful resources on these changes are being developed for tenants, property managers and property owners and will be made available on the [RTA website](https://www.rta.qld.gov.au/rental-law-changes) so stay tuned. Opportunities to register and attend online webinars about the rental law changes from the comfort of your own home or office will open in the following weeks.

## Free RATs for Concession Card holders

From 1 August 2022, if you hold an eligible Commonwealth Concession card, you can get free RAT kits at Queensland Health RAT distribution points. You can get up to 5 RAT kits per month and you can get all five from a single visit.

To get free RATs, you must hold one of these cards:

* Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
* Health Care Card
* Low Income Health Care Card
* Pensioner Concession Card
* Department of Veterans’ Affairs Gold, White or Orange card.

You can get a carer or guardian to pick up your RATs if you’re eligible but can’t get them yourself. They will need to show your card when they go to the Queensland Health facility.

To protect others from COVID-19, wear a face mask if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.

You can find where your local pick up point is on the Queensland health website

[Where and how to get your free RAT kits (if eligible)](https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/exposed-to-covid/covid-testing-in-queensland/free-rat-concession-card-qld#where-to-get-rat)

## 10-year Primary Health Care plan released

The Australian Dept of Health recently released a 10 Year Primary Health Care Plan which aims to improve people’s experience of care, their health, the cost efficiency of the system, and the work life of health care providers. Its intention is to significantly shift the way primary health care is delivered and how individuals and communities are engaged. The plan also focuses on the integration of primary health care with hospitals and other parts of the health system, aged care, disability care and social care systems.

The plan has a focus on keeping people at the centre of care; access to primary health, health and wellbeing, continuity of care across the system, integrating health care, utilizing new technologies and focusing on the future, safety and quality, and ensuring equal health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

You can find out more at the link below:

[australia-s-primary-health-care-10-year-plan-2022-2032-future-focused-primary-health-care-australia-s-primary-health-care-10-year-plan-2022-2032.pdf](https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2022/03/australia-s-primary-health-care-10-year-plan-2022-2032-future-focused-primary-health-care-australia-s-primary-health-care-10-year-plan-2022-2032.pdf)

## Easy read resource on COVID-19 oral medicines

The Department of Health and Aged Care has produced an Easy Read on COVID-19 oral medicines. The resource is focused on anti-viral medicine for people who test positive for COVID-19, how to access the medicine, how to take it, and broader information on vaccinations. The easy read resource will be published on the Department’s website alongside [other COVID-19 Easy Read resources](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-easy-read-resources) shortly.

## Go for Gold: a social inclusion legacy for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Q Shelter has launched a report on the legacy from the Brisbane 2032 Games. The report looks at what can be done to prevent significant negative impacts in the lead up to the games caused by factors such as regional infrastructure and workforce increases. The report outlines a suite of recommendations across housing, homelessness and economic inclusion.
You can access [the full report here](https://thedeck.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Go-for-Gold-Legacy-Report-Q-Shelter.pdf?utm_source=2021+contacts&utm_campaign=75fa032366-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_12_21_11_57_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e86d835b40-75fa032366-617154533&mc_cid=75fa032366&mc_eid=805c1761aa)

## Homes for All – A Roadmap to Affordable Housing

Anglicare Australia has released a Roadmap report on affordable housing that outlines a range of solutions to the current housing crisis across the country.

Homes for All offers proposals to make renting more secure and more affordable and calls for

major reform of tax and policy settings, and outlines strategies to end the undersupply of affordable housing. You can access the [full report here](https://www.anglicare.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Homes-for-All.pdf)