

# Understand

## **NRSCH**

the national regulatory system for  
community housing

# 3

## **reasons to join the regulatory system**

### **1. Access funding**

Governments prefer to fund and subsidise registered community housing providers (CHPs) – because they believe that registered CHPs are at less risk of failing. Talk with your funding agency to find out if your organisation needs to be registered.

### **2. Be strong**

CHPs that are registered say they are stronger in their management, their finances and their overall business as a result of the registration process and the policies and practices it requires.

### **3. Be seen as strong**

Tenants and their advocates, including your organisation's members, family, friends and the community notice that registered CHPs improve their practices all the time, as they prepare for their compliance assessment.

## Who can register

The regulatory system is open to any CHP or organisation that plans to provide community housing, as long as it is legally incorporated. It can be:

- a company limited by guarantee (registered with ASIC)
- an Indigenous corporation (registered with ORIC) or
- an association (registered with Licensing NT)

The process differs depending on the size and nature of the CHP's operations:

- **Tier 1** providers are the biggest. They have **more than 350 tenancies** and they regularly build houses.
- **Tier 2** providers manage **50–500 tenancies** and are growing. They build houses but not all the time.
- **Tier 3** providers are smallest. They manage **fewer than 100 tenancies** and may do occasional or one-off builds.

## Joining and complying

Organisations with big operations that take big financial risks as a housing developer are required to provide the most evidence during registration and compliance checks.

### Registering

During registration, the Registrar assesses an organisation's capacity to meet the 7 performance standards of the National Regulatory Code. You can show you are ready by sharing your plans, policies and procedures. You need to show you *can do* the work.

### Staying compliant

Periodically, every registered CHP is assessed again, in relation to the same 7 performance standards. This process is called a compliance check. At this stage the Registrar wants to know if the organisation's plans, policies and procedures work in practice. For example, the Registrar will look at how long properties are vacant and

why; the level of rent arrears, and the organisation's financial performance. Compliance checks depend on operational data, and they invite the CHP to explain their performance. You need to show that your organisation *has been doing* the work.

Organisations in Tiers 1 and 2 undergo a compliance check every year. For Tier 3 providers it's every 2 years.

# Registering with NRSCH: the process

