

ACCESS & PARTICIPATION POLICY

Providing affordable accommodation for low income and disadvantaged single people

Policy Statement

St Kilda Community Housing is committed to the supply of affordable accommodation for low income and disadvantaged single people living in the City of Port Phillip and surrounding municipalities. This rent policy is designed to ensure that tenants do not jeopardize their accommodation by falling behind in their rent payments.

The setting of rents by SCH is governed by the information contained within the DHHS Guidelines for Registered Housing Agencies. Tenant eligibility, allocation and rent setting for properties. In accordance with DHHS policy, SCH also charges a service fee to cover outgoings such as gas, water and electricity bills.

Reporting on rent arrears are a Key Performance Measure for the Victorian Housing Registrar.

Procedure

1. A non-judgemental approach to people– the beliefs and value system of all people shall be respected even when they may be at variance with the value basis of St Kilda Community Housing Ltd
2. An equitable approach – SCH will advocate for the social and economic rights of disadvantaged tenants.
3. Access – to ensure that all eligible people have equal access to the services offered by SCH
4. Equality of Rights – SCH is committed to the principles and rights embodied in human rights and equal opportunity legislation. We do not discriminate on the basis of the following:
 - » Race
 - » Age
 - » Sexual orientation
 - » Sex
 - » Lawful sexual activity
 - » Gender identity
 - » Marital status

- » Pregnancy
- » Breastfeeding
- » Parental status or status as a carer
- » Disability
- » Industrial activity
- » Political belief or activity
- » Religious belief or activity
- » Physical features
- » Employment activity

5. Participation – to provide opportunities and support for tenant participation in all services offered by SCH

6. SCH reserves the right to actively discriminate in the provision of its services in favour of low-income and disadvantaged single adults.

Links to other policies

This policy is enacted through the following policies:

- Tenant Engagement Policy
- Housing Allocation Policy
- Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Code of Conduct

This policy is also enacted through the following procedures:

- Staff induction
- Staff training and development

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