



If the caravan park I live in closes or may close

INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR LONG-STAY TENANTS

A long stay tenant is someone who stays in a caravan park for longer than three months either under a periodic tenancy or a fixed term agreement.

What is a closure or a possible closure?

A **closure** is when an owner has issued a legal notice to residents informing them of a closure within 180 days or subject to the sale of the park.

A **possible closure** is when an owner is considering the possibility of closing the caravan park to pursue a sale or a development application. It may take a number of years before this leads to a **closure**.

What do I need to do?

As soon as you know that your park may or will be closing start finding out about other housing options.

For information about your tenancy agreement, contact the Consumer Protection Advice Line of the Department of Commerce on 1300 30 40 54.

For information on housing assistance please phone the Department of Housing on 1800 065 892.

What public or community housing (social housing) assistance is available?

The type of assistance will depend on whether there is a formal notice of a **closure** or a **possible closure**.

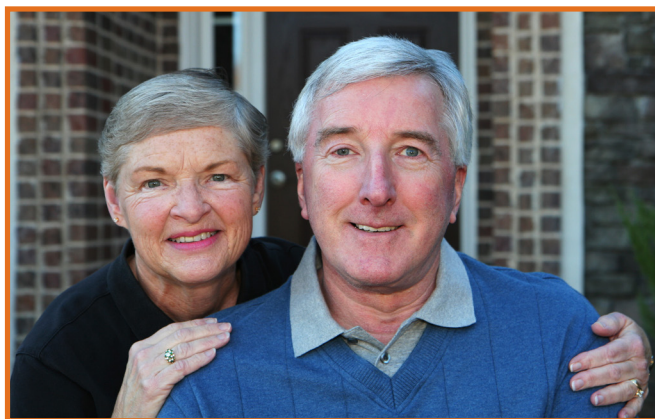
1. For a **closure** or **possible closure**:

You can go on the wait list if:

- Your income and assets (e.g. money in the bank) are within public housing eligibility limits;
- You do not own, or part own, another dwelling or block of land.
- Your waiting time could be for some years so if you want to move into social housing you should apply as soon as possible.



- You can widen your housing options by selecting the 'community housing' option on your application form. This will list you for both public housing and community housing (provided by not-for-profit organisations).



2. For a **closure**:

Contact the Department of Housing on 1800 065 892.

The Department of Housing may visit your caravan park to interview long stay tenants to understand their housing needs and identify possible choices.

If this happens you may be able to get priority housing assistance if you are eligible. Your waiting time may still be months away.

Other housing assistance is available

Depending on your income and assets, and what you choose to apply for, you may be able to receive:

- A bond loan to assist you into private rental;
- A loan to assist you meet the first two weeks rent.

Depending on your income and assets, and product availability, you may be able to access:

- The National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) housing;
- A shared equity home loan from Keystart;
- A low deposit home loan from Keystart.

I have questions and want more information

For information on eligibility for the various housing options please check: www.housing.wa.gov.au/housingoptions/EligibilityEstimator or telephone the Department of Housing on 1800 065 892.

Find out more about long-stay tenancy and tenure from the Department of Commerce at <http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications>

A useful start is their fact sheet Long stay tenure in residential parks -a guide for consumers which can be found at: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/long-stay-tenure-residential-parks>)