



Pru Goward

Minister for Family and Community Services

Minister for Social Housing

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

MEDIA RELEASE

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CRACKDOWN ON PUBLIC HOUSING WRECKERS AND RORTERS PASSES PARLIAMENT

Tenants who damage public housing and those convicted of rental fraud will face new sanctions and eviction under a Bill passed today by the NSW Government.

Minister for Social Housing Pru Goward said the Bill, which amends the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010* and *Housing Act 2001*, would lead to a fairer, safer and more financially sustainable social housing system.

The Bill also gives the Government the power to make tenants who have caused significant damage to their public housing property pay a rental bond. This will not apply to tenants who do the right thing.

“The vast majority of our social housing tenants do the right thing and are entitled to a fairer system free from the wreckers and rorters,” Ms Goward said.

“When a tenant damages their property, the Government has to spend money that could have been used elsewhere in the social housing system.

“It can cost tens of thousands of dollars to fix up a house after it has been damaged by a tenant and those responsible will now be held to account.

“This Bill will ensure that the Government can take appropriate action against the small minority of tenants who do not value their property.”

Tenancy bonds form part of the NSW Government’s commitment to combat bad behaviour in public housing, which includes recent changes to strengthen its Antisocial Behaviour Policy by directing those who do the wrong thing to support services.

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