

Zed Seselja MLA
Member for Molonglo
Leader of the Opposition
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CANBERRA'S RENTAL MARKET: \$110 MORE THAN MELBOURNE

A three bedroom house in Canberra is \$110 more expensive to rent per week than Melbourne and \$50 more than Sydney, according to today's Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services 2012. ACT Opposition Leader Zed Seselja said the report shows the extent of Canberra's housing affordability crisis.

"Today's report shows the dire reality of Canberra's housing affordability situation over ACT Labor spin, with Canberra's rental market the second most expensive in the country – second only to Darwin," Mr Seselja said today.

"These extraordinarily high rents, along with huge rates, electricity and water bills create the perfect storm for Canberra families.

"Canberra's affordable housing crisis has come about due to restricted land supply, a broken planning system, poor infrastructure delivery, high taxes and a lack of competition.

"The Canberra Liberal's solutions to these issues include a genuine land bank, which would have a pool of land ready to release, infrastructure improvements, taxation reform, streamlining the planning system and improving competition in the market.

"Through our Infrastructure Canberra policy, the Canberra Liberals would also establish an independent infrastructure commissioner backed by an industry board to ensure that infrastructure which supports housing is delivered in a more timely and targeted manner.

"The housing crisis created by this government is of great concern to the Canberra Liberals, and addressing it will continue to be a major focus for us this year," Mr Seselja concluded.