

# Income Managed Rent Payments

## Changes to Rent Payments from Income Managed funds

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development (Housing) has simplified paying rent to housing via income management.

With a tenant's consent, Housing can now automatically adjust their rent payments through their income managed funds, meaning tenants do not have to go into a housing office or attend Centrelink to manually adjust their rent payments.

Rent adjustments occur when their household income changes. This includes pension increases from Centrelink.

### How does it work?

A Tenant must give ongoing consent to allow Housing to adjust a rent payment from income managed funds on their behalf.

- Consent is recognised through signing a new Rent and Other Deductions form.
- Once the new form is signed, if the rent payable changes, the department will automatically adjust income managed rent payments, directly with Centrelink.

### How does this affect income managed funds?

- Households still only pay up to 25% of their income.
- If there are not enough funds in tenants' income management account or is a large change in the payment required, department staff will contact the tenants to make other payment arrangements.
- Housing only has permission to adjust the rent payable.
- Housing does not have permission to make changes to other payments, such as excess water charges, rent arrears, maintenance etc.
- Housing is not permitted to discuss any other element of a tenant's pension with Centrelink.

### Conditions of ongoing consent:

Consent remains in place as long the tenant still lives in the same property where they gave consent, or until they withdraw their consent.

A new Rent and Other Deductions form must be signed if a tenant relocates or transfers to another property.

### What if I don't consent?

Tenants who don't want the department to automatically adjust their income-managed rent, will need to attend their local housing or Centrelink office to manually adjust their rent payments.

## Further information

For further information, please attend or contact your local housing office.