

HEALTH, HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

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PAPER 2

The determinants of housing outcomes

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Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to conceptualise the drivers of particular housing experiences, to explain why some people have positive housing outcomes while others do not. The attached Determinants of Housing Outcomes (Figure 2) conceptual framework has been developed to facilitate this understanding. It articulates the complex, multi level factors that influence housing (in)stability. The framework describes the policy touch points or levers that typically lead to housing stress, housing instability, and/or homelessness. These things occur at the societal (in Australia this includes Federal, State/Territory, and Local Governments), community and individual level. The framework is intended to inform primary prevention strategies to address housing instability and homelessness, including integrated multi-sectoral policy responses.

South Australian housing policy context

The launch of [Our Housing Future 2020-2030](#) marks a renewed focus among the South Australian housing sector, towards breaking down barriers that see many people in continued housing stress. The strategy recognises the opportunity to shift our thinking about housing as part of a broader ecosystem of government services and overall community wellbeing. With this in mind, strategies to address poor housing outcomes must consider their root causes/determinants.

Summary of the framework

As depicted in the [Dahlgren and Whitehead \(1991\)](#) social determinants of health model (Figure 1), the social determinants of health are social, economic, behavioural, and environmental. Many of the determinants of health lie outside the control of the health care system. By applying the social determinants of health model lens, Figure 2 proposes a framework for identifying the determinants of housing outcomes.



The determinants of housing outcomes can be similarly described as (but not limited to) social, environmental, economic, cultural and political. The model can inform partnership opportunities within the housing/homelessness sectors, as well as between these and other sectors, i.e. health, built environment, social services, correctional services; to better identify and address issues that may lead to housing crises.

The framework recognises crosscutting influences, including the intergenerational transfer of life circumstances, and considers how these influences shape the position an individual may end up in, and thus their propensity for housing stress and crisis.

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DETERMINANTS OF HOUSING OUTCOMES

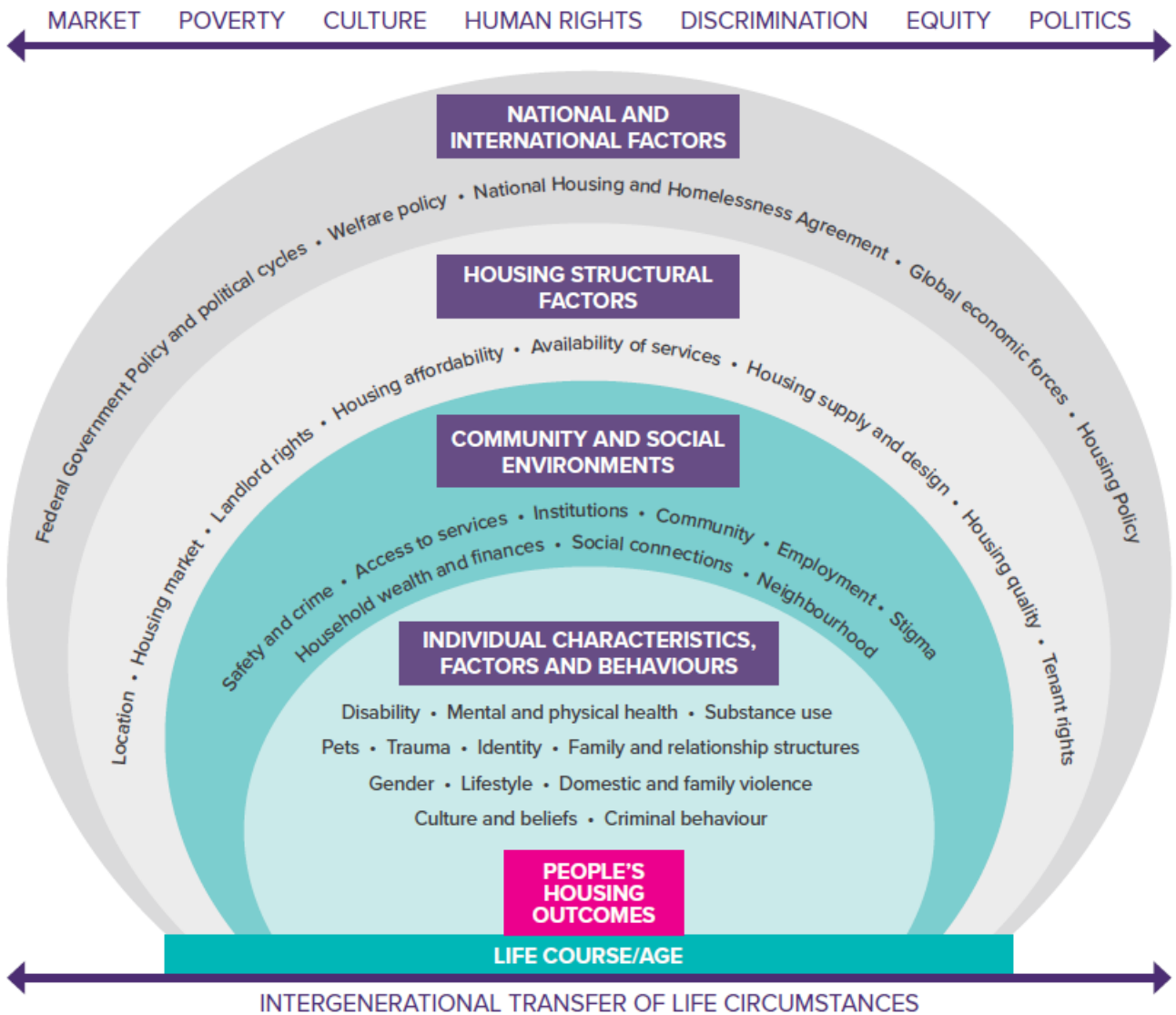


Figure 2 - Determinants of housing outcomes