

Appendix six – Key measures in the COVID-19 response to homelessness

Actions	Description	Date
COVID-19 Crisis Refuges Deep Cleaning Program	Additional funding for the deep cleaning of crisis refuges and congregate care properties, over three tranches that extended the program to December 2020.	17 March 2020
Additional rental subsidies via Rent Choice Assist, Rent Choice Assist COVID-19, Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.	Rental subsidies to accelerate pathways for existing clients of homelessness services and priority social housing applicants to secure stable housing in the private rental market.	27 March 2020
Temporary Accommodation	Temporary accommodation for people sleeping rough and deconcentration of congregate homelessness services not conducive to social distancing.	27 March 2020
Domestic and family violence services	Funding for expanded supports to victim-survivors and children, and adaptation of services as a result of COVID-19 (e.g. technology, safety equipment, personal protective equipment, additional staff support and training).	May 2020
Together Home (Tranche 1: 2020–22)	400 packages to support those housed in temporary accommodation during COVID-19, into a head-leased property with wrap-around supports for two years.	9 June 2020
Supports for unaccompanied under 16s	Increase the capacity of the Homeless Youth Assistance Program and specialist homelessness services to provide emergency alternative accommodation for unaccompanied children and young people aged 12 to 15 years.	August 2020
Together Home (Tranche 2: 2021–23)	An additional 400 packages to support people experiencing homelessness into a head-leased property with wrap-around supports for two years.	3 November 2020
Aboriginal Together Home	Funding for an Aboriginal-led model and expansion of the Together Home program in the Hunter Central Coast District for two years.	January 2021

Source: Department of Communities and Justice.