Surveys for current and former home owners

June 2022



# About this survey

Under the Queensland Government's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025, we're committed to delivering improvements to residential parks and addressing concerns about site rent increases and unsold manufactured homes.

This will include reviewing the relevant parts of the *Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Act 2003* and considering issues raised by home owners related to site rent increases and home sale processes.

As part of the review, we're seeking feedback from current and former manufactured home owners to identify priorities for improvements to residential parks.

This survey gives you an opportunity to shape these improvements.

Completed surveys will be accepted until **15 August 2022.** 

#### How to complete this survey

You can answer as many or as few questions as you like. If you live with other people, please only submit one response for your household.

This survey may take around 30 minutes to complete.

All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

Any instruction to go to a question number refers to the numbered question in the same part of the survey.

When completed, please return to:

MH Consultation Legislation and Reform Strategic Policy and Legislation Housing and Homelessness Services| Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy GPO Box 690, Brisbane QLD 4001

Or scan and email to: MHconsult@chde.qld.gov.au

1. Do you currently live in a manufactured home in a residential park? \*

Yes – Please complete PART A and PART C of the survey.

I have lived in one in the past – <u>SKIP TO PAGE 15</u> and complete <u>PART B</u> and <u>PART C</u> of the survey only.

No - Thank you but you are not eligible to complete this survey.

#### PART A – Questions for current home owners

Complete this part if you are a <u>current home owner</u>. Skip to **Part B** (page 15) if you are a former home owner who no longer lives in a residential park but has lived in one in the past.

#### About your residential park

2. Who do you live with?

Alone
Spouse or partner
Children or dependents
Adult children
Friend or housemate
Other (please specify)

- Before deciding to live in a residential park, did you consider buying into a retirement village? Yes
  - No
- 4. Why did you choose to live in a residential park?

(Choose <u>up to 5</u> answers)

- More affordable than other housing options, for example an apartment or townhouse
- Potential capital gain
- Freeing up equity
- Reducing the need for home and property maintenance
- Lifestyle and sense of community
- Living with people of a similar age
- Location
- Standard of park amenities
- Standard of park maintenance
- Long-term housing security
- Less complex contract than a retirement village
- No exit fees
- Ability to relocate a manufactured home
- Other (please specify)
- How long have you lived in your residential park? Less than 12 months – (go to question 7) More than 12 months

6. How many years have you lived in your current residential park?

Round to the nearest year

- 7. How many manufactured homes are there in your current park?
  - 0 20 21 - 50 51 - 100 101 - 150 151 - 200 201 - 300 301 - 400 More than 400 Unsure
- 8. Is your residential park purpose built or a mixed-use park?
  - Purpose built only contains manufactured homes
  - Mixed-use a variety of accommodation, such as long-term caravan tenants, holiday cabins and manufactured homes
- 9. Does your residential park have an onsite manager?
  - Yes
  - No

# Site agreements and site rent

- 10. Did you get legal and/or financial advice before signing your site agreement? *(Select only one answer)* 
  - Legal advice Financial advice Both Neither

#### 11. How much was the weekly site rent when you moved into your park?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

12. How much is the **weekly** site rent now?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

13. Does your site rent include utilities charges?

Yes

No

#### **Questions about CPI Increases**

14. Under your site agreement, can the park owner increase your site rent based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI)?

Yes

No – (go to question 20)

15. Under your site agreement, can the park owner increase your site rent based on CPI and another factor at the same time, for example "CPI plus 1 per cent"?

Yes

No - (go to Question 17)

16. How is this calculated?

17. How often can your rent be increased based on CPI?

Annually Annually with periodic market rent reviews Every 2 years Every 3 years Every 4 years Every 5 years Other (please specify)

18. What was your weekly site rent before it was last increased using CPI?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

19. How much did your weekly site rent go up when it was last increased using CPI?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

#### Questions about market review of site rent

- 20. Under your site agreement, can your park owner increase your site rent based on market review of site rent?
  - Yes No – (go to question 28)
- 21. How often does your site agreement allow market review of site rent?

```
Annually
Every 2 years
Every 3 years
Every 4 years
Every 5 years
Other (please specify)
```

22. What was your weekly site rent before you last market rent review?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

23. How much did your weekly rent go up after your last market rent review?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

24. Were you happy with how your last market review of site rent for your manufactured home was conducted?

Yes – (go to question 26) No

25. Why were you unhappy with how your last market review of site rent for your manufactured home was conducted?

(Choose <u>up to 3</u> reasons.)

The site rent increased by an excessive amount

The market valuation made inappropriate comparisons with other residential parks

The market valuation was difficult to understand

Home owners were not appropriately consulted in the preparation of the market valuation

I did not feel like I had enough time to dispute the market review of site rent

I felt like the process to dispute the market review of site rent was too complex or intimidating Other (please specify)

We are collecting example market valuations to understand the different considerations and methodologies used by registered valuers during market reviews of site rent.

26. Would you like to send us a copy of a recent market rent valuation?

Yes No – (go to question 28)

27. Copies of a recent market valuations, can be emailed to <a href="mailto:mhconsult@chde.qld.gov.au">mhconsult@chde.qld.gov.au</a> or sent along with this survey to:

MH Consultation Legislation and Reform Strategic Policy and Legislation Housing and Homelessness Services| Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy GPO Box 690, Brisbane QLD 4001

#### Questions about site rent increases based on a fixed percentage

28. Under your site agreement can your park owner increase site rent based on a fixed percentage?

Yes No – (go to question 31)

29. How often can your site rent be increased based on a fixed percentage?

Annually Every 2 years Every 3 years Every 4 years Every 5 years Other (please specify)

30. The last time your site rent was increased by a fixed percentage, what was the percentage point increase?

Please provide as a percentage point as a number, for example a 3.5% increase would be 3.5

#### Questions about site rent increases to cover a special cost

31. In the past 2 years, has your park increased site rent to cover a special cost?

Yes

No – (go to question 34)

Special costs include increases to cover significant operational costs, cost of significant repairs, or the cost of significant upgrades where 75% of home owners have agreed to the increase.

32. How much did your weekly site rent increase by to cover the special cost?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

33. What did the increase in site rent to cover a special cost, pay for?

An operational cost

A repair cost

An upgrade to the residential park

## Questions about increases in site rent for another reason

34. Under your site agreement, can your park manager increase site rent for any other reason?

Yes

No – (go to question 39)

35. What other reasons are there for increasing your site rent?

36. How often does your site agreement allow site rent increases for this reason?

Annually Every 2 years Every 3 years Every 4 years Every 5 years Other (please specify)

37. What was your weekly site rent before it was last increased using this basis?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

38. How much did your weekly site rent go up after it was last increased using this basis?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00

## Affordability

39. Has a site rent increase affected your ability to afford other essential items, for example groceries, utilities, transport, medical care or insurance?

Yes

No

40. Are you concerned that living in your residential park could become unaffordable in the future?

Not at all concerned A little bit concerned Neutral Somewhat concerned Very concerned

#### **Purchasing manufactured homes**

41. Who did you purchase your manufactured home from?

Departing home owner Park owner – *(Go to question 43)* Other (please specify)

42. Did the departing resident assign their existing site agreement to you?

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Yes}}\xspace - \ensuremath{\mathsf{I}}\xspace$  signed an assignment agreement when  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{I}}\xspace$  moved into the park

No - I signed a new site agreement with the park owner/manager

43. Did you purchase your manufactured home onsite or move it into the park?Onsite – (go to question 45)

Moved it into the park

44. How much did it cost you to relocate your manufactured home into your park?

Please provide cost in dollars as a number, for example, 15000.00

45. Have your ever relocated a manufactured home?

Yes

I haven't relocated but have considered it

No – (go to question 48)

46. Were there any barriers to you relocating your manufactured home?

Yes

No – (go to question 48)

47. What were the barriers to relocating your manufactured home?

(Choose all that apply)

It cost too much

The relocation process was too complicated

It was difficult finding a company to relocate a manufactured home

It was difficult finding a residential park willing to accept a relocated manufactured home

Other (please specify)

48. What year did you purchase your current manufactured home?

Provide year as a number, for example, 2015

49. How much did your current manufactured home cost?

Please provide cost in dollars as a number, for example, 350000.00

50. Are you currently trying to sell your manufactured home?

Yes

No – (go to question 53)

51. How long has your manufactured home been for sale?

Less than 3 months

- 3 months to 6 months
- 6 months to 12 months
- 1 year to 2 years
- Longer
- 52. Are you paying somebody to help you sell your home?

Park owner or manager Real estate agent I haven't paid someone / not applicable Other (please specify)

53. Have you sold a manufactured home in the past?

Yes

No – (Skip to PART C of this survey on page 19)

54. How long did it take you to sell your manufactured home?

Less than 3 months 3 months to 6 months 6 months to 12 months 1 year to 2 years Longer

55. How much did you sell your manufactured home for?

Please provide price in dollars as a number, for example, 350000.

56. What was the original purchase price of this manufactured home (if applicable)?

Please provide price in dollars as a number, for example, 350000.

57. Did you experience any difficulties selling your home?

Yes

No – (Skip to **PART C** of this survey on **page 19**)

58. What difficulties did you experience?

Difficult to find a buyer

Understanding the process of selling the home

Difficulty with park owner or selling agent

Other

59. Do you want to give any more information about the difficulties selling your home?

60. Did you pay somebody to help you sell your home?

Park owner or manager Real estate agent I haven't paid someone Not applicable Other (please specify)

61. Does your site agreement permit you to rent your manufactured home to a tenant?

Yes

No

Unsure

#### END OF PART A, PLEASE SKIP TO PART C (PAGE 19)

## PART B – Questions for former home owners

Complete this part if you are a **former home owner**. Skip this part and complete PART C if you currently own a home in a residential park.

#### About your residential park

2. Before deciding to live in a residential park, did you consider buying into a retirement village?

Yes

No

3. Why did you choose to live in a residential park? (*Choose <u>up to 5</u> answers*)

More affordable than other housing options, for example an apartment or townhouse

Potential capital gain

Freeing up equity

Reducing the need for home and property maintenance

Lifestyle and sense of community

Living with people of a similar age

Location

Standard of park amenities

Standard of park maintenance

Long-term housing security

Less complex contract than a retirement village

No exit fees

Ability to relocate a manufactured home

Other (please specify)

- How long did you live in your residential park?
   Less than 12 months (go to question 6)
   More than 12 months
- 5. How long did you live in your most recent residential park for?

Round to the nearest year. For example, if you've lived in the park for four years, write "4".

6. Did you get legal and/or financial advice before signing your site agreement? *(Select only one answer)* 

Legal advice Financial advice Both

Neither

7. How much was the **weekly** site rent when you moved into the most recent residential park you lived in?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00.

8. How much was the **weekly** site rent when you moved out of the most recent residential park you lived in?

Please provide weekly site rent as a number, for example, 200.00.

#### Purchasing manufactured homes

9. Who did you purchase your manufactured home from?

Departing home owner – (*go to question 10*) Park owner – (*go to question 11*) Other (please specify) – (*go to question 11*)

10. Did the departing resident assign their existing site agreement to you?

Yes – I signed an assignment agreement when I moved into the park No – I signed a new site agreement with the park owner/manager

11. Did you purchase your manufactured home onsite or move it into the park?

Onsite

Moved it into the park

12. Have your ever relocated a manufactured home?

Yes

I haven't relocated but have considered it

No – (go to question 16)

13. Were there any barriers to you relocating your manufactured home?

Yes

No – (go to question 16)

14. What were the barriers to relocating your manufactured home? (*Choose all that apply*)

It cost too much

The relocation process was too complicated

It was difficult finding a company to relocate a manufactured home

It was difficult finding a residential park willing to accept a relocated manufactured home

Other (please specify)

15. How much did it cost you to relocate your manufactured home into your park?

Please provide cost in dollars as a number, for example, 15000.00.

16. What year did you purchase your most recent manufactured home?

Provide year as a number, for example, 2015.

17. How much did the most recent manufactured home you lived in cost?

Please provide cost in dollars as a number, for example, 350000.00.

18. Have you sold a manufactured home in the past?

Yes No – (go to question 25)

- 19. How long did it take you to sell your most recent manufactured home?
  - Less than 3 months 3 months to 6 months 6 months to 12 months 1 year to 2 years Longer

20. How much did you sell your most recent manufactured home for?

Please provide price in dollars as a number, for example, 350000.

21. Did you experience any difficulties selling your home?

Yes No – (go to question 24)

22. What difficulties did you experience?

Difficult to find a buyer

Understanding the process of selling the home

Difficulty with park owner or selling agent

Other (please specify)

23. Do you want to give us more information about your answer?

24. Did you pay somebody to help you sell your home?

Park owner or manager Real estate agent I haven't paid someone Other (please specify)

25. Did your site agreement permit you to rent your manufactured home to a tenant?

Yes No

Unsure

#### END OF PART B, PLEASE CONTINUE ONTO PART C ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.

# PART C – Questions for both current and former home owners

Current and former home owners should both complete this part

#### About the Manufactured Home (Residential Parks) Act 2003

The objectives of the Act are to:

- regulate and promote fair trading practices in the operation of residential parks
- protect home owners from unfair business practices
- enable home owners, and prospective home owners, to make informed choices by being fully aware of their rights and responsibilities in their relationship with park owners.
- 1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *Tick whichever box best applies (select one per row)*

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
The Act is achieving its objective to regulate and promote fair trading practices in the operation of residential parks.					
There is a clear and fair process for making, assigning, and ending site agreements.					
There is a clear and fair process for selling a manufactured home in a residential park.					
Home owners are protected from unfair business practices.					
There is a clear and fair process for varying site rent.					
The Act provides effective ways of resolving a residential park dispute.					
Home owners, and prospective home owners are enabled to make informed choices by being fully aware of their rights and responsibilities in their relationship with park owners.					
The Act facilitates the disclosure of information about a residential park to a prospective home owner for a site.					
The Act facilitates participation by home owners for a residential park in the affairs of the park.					

2. Do you have any other comments about the Act? (You may attach additional pages if needed)

# Satisfaction with living in a residential park

3. What have you liked most about living in a manufactured home in your residential park? *(Choose <u>up to 3</u> answers.)* 

Affordability Potential capital gain Living in a community environment Living with people of a similar age Location Standard of park amenities Standard of park maintenance Long-term housing security No exit fees The ability to relocate my manufactured home Other (please specify)

4. What have you disliked most about living in a manufactured home in your residential park? (*Choose <u>up to 3</u> answers.*)

Affordability of site rent

Potential capital loss

Living in a community environment

Living with people of a similar age

Location

Standard of park amenities

Standard of park maintenance

The cost and complication of relocating my manufactured home

Other (please specify)

5. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about living in a residential park? (You may attach additional pages if needed)

## About you

Answer these questions as they apply to you, even if you're responding to this survey on behalf of your household.

6. What is your gender?

Male Female Non-binary/Third gender Prefer not to answer Prefer to self-describe

7. What is your age group?

Under 55 55 – 64 65 – 74 75 or older Prefer not to answer

8. What is your annual household income?

Less than \$25,000 \$25,000 to \$40,000 \$40,000 to \$80,000 \$80,000 to \$100,000 More than \$100,000 Prefer not to answer

9. What are the sources of your household income?

(Choose all that apply)

Employment

Full Aged Pension

Part Aged Pension

Other government payment, for example Newstart allowance, Disability Support Pension or Commonwealth Rent Assistance

Superannuation

Savings

Rental and other investment income

Other (please specify)

- 10. Do you receive any Queensland seniors' rebates or other government assistance? *(Choose all that apply)* 
  - Electricity Water Gas Reticulated gas Rates None of the above Other (please specify)

11. What is the suburb of your current residential park, or for former home owners, the suburb of the last residential park you lived in?

12. Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes No I prefer not to answer

- 13. Do you have an ongoing disability?
  - Yes

No

I prefer not to answer

14. What language do you speak at home?

15. Can we contact you about your answers and send you updates about this consultation? \*

Yes

No – (go to question 18 of this part / Privacy Statement)

16. Name?

17. Preferred email or mailing address?

#### **Privacy statement**

The Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy (the department) is collecting your personal information in connection with the *Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Act 2003* (Act) Review Survey (survey) for the purposes of conducting research about manufactured home parks; and assessing the effectiveness and operation of the Act in terms of consumer protection, promoting informed choice and preventing unfair business practices in the residential parks sector

Limited personal information may be used for related research, policy or planning functions. Unless authorised or required by law, your personal information will not otherwise be disclosed to any other third party without your consent. More information about the Department's privacy policy is available on our website at https://www.chde.qld.gov.au/global/privacy

On-line versions of this survey will be hosted on the Engagement HQ website. The department is not responsible for the privacy, security practices or content of the Engagement HQ website. Engagement HQ may collect, use and disclosure your personal information in different ways to the department. Please refer to the Engagement HQ privacy policy for more detail, which can be located at <a href="https://go.engagementhq.com/privacy">https://go.engagementhq.com/privacy</a>.

18. Do you agree to the privacy statement? \*

I have read and understand the privacy statement

#### END OF SURVEY

When completed, please return to:

MH Consultation Legislation and Reform Strategic Policy and Legislation Housing and Homelessness Services| Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy GPO Box 690, Brisbane QLD 4001