

PRIME MINISTER

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COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO HOUSING COSTS

The Prime Minister has written to the State Premiers regarding the Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Housing Costs, which was tabled in Federal Parliament on 19 September.

He has indicated to the Premiers that the Commonwealth regarded the Report as a most comprehensive document and would be subjecting its findings to close study over the coming months.

Given the important role which State and Local Governments play in the housing process, he has encouraged the States also to examine the Report closely. It will only be through a concerted effort by all levels of government, in cooperation with industry, that a telling impact will be made on the growth of housing costs.

The Prime Minister would like to see a widespread debate on the Report and to this end the Government has arranged for the three Committee members, Mr Ernest Eyers, O.B.E., Mr Keith Campbell, C.B.E., and Mr Ken Taeuber, to be available to discuss their findings with Government and industry over the next few months.

The Commonwealth Government will consider what action might be taken within its areas of responsibility after it has thoroughly examined the Report and received public comments. The Commonwealth role in follow-up to the Report will fall under the responsibility of the Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development.