

## Energy Consumers Australia

18 February 2025

### **Letter of Support: ACOSS Project — *Health Impact Analysis and Advocacy for Accelerating Home Energy Upgrades***

The Tasmanian Council of Social Service (TasCOSS) is pleased to support the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) in its application for project funding to undertake a national analysis of the health impacts of poor energy performing homes.

TasCOSS is the peak body for the community services industry in Tasmania. We represent the interests of our members and Tasmanians living on low incomes to government, regulators, the media and the public. Through our advocacy and policy development, we draw attention to the causes of poverty, inequality and disadvantage, and promote the adoption of effective solutions to address these issues.

TasCOSS engages and works closely with ACOSS, so we know and recognise their track record in partnering on and producing impactful research that fills gaps in the evidence base, as well working in collaborations to develop policy solutions and advocate for systemic change.

This project will address a significant knowledge gap, at both the national and state level, regarding the health impacts of poor energy performing homes, compared to good energy performing homes, on consumers and government budgets.

Developing an evidence-base and the ability to access this knowledge is particularly important for Tasmanian consumers. As there is no specialised energy consumer advocacy group or appropriately resourced organisation to undertake this type of research or project work, TasCOSS relies on research and evidence from external sources to support our advocacy on behalf of Tasmanians living on low incomes.

TasCOSS looks forward to the project findings and engagement with ACOSS and its networks to better understand the problem of poor energy performing homes with respect to people's health, inform solutions and influence governments to drive change through accelerating home energy upgrades.

ACOSS is ideally placed to coordinate this critical research and deliver on an advocacy strategy to influence governments to accelerate home energy upgrades that prioritises low income housing and TasCOSS strongly endorse their project and funding application.

Yours faithfully,



**Adrienne Picone**  
Chief Executive Officer