

Abandoned or Derelict Goods Policy

Location	Ainslie Village, ACT
Policy Type	Social Housing Policy
Version	5.0
Issue Date	October 2021
National Regulatory Code	Performance Outcome 1- Tenant and housing services

1. OBJECTIVE

1.1. This policy provides guidelines about dealing with Abandoned and Derelict Goods.

2. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

- 2.1. Ainslie Village is a caring, non-violent and tolerant community that employs principles to maintain harmony among residents and with those who support them.
- 2.2. Argyle Housing's Ainslie Village program promotes and respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons with a disability and provides a service to tenants in line with the principles of the NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014, Disability ACT and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
- 2.3. Argyle Housing's Ainslie Village program is compliant with the ACT Human Rights Act.
- 2.4. Argyle Housing's Ainslie Village program supports and encourages a person-centered and culturally sensitive approach to service delivery.
- 2.5. Argyle Housing's Ainslie Village program promotes and respects the rights and freedoms of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Refer Argyle Policy: Policy Definitions.

4. POLICY AND DETAIL

- 4.1. All abandoned and unclaimed goods left on the property at Ainslie Village are to be disposed of in accordance with the Uncollected Goods Act 1996.
- 4.2. Goods will be declared abandoned once Argyle Housing staff have clearly established that the property has been vacated by the resident.
- 4.3. Staff will, where possible, attempt to notify former residents of their goods. This may include:
 - Sending a letter to a forwarding or last known address for the former resident
 - Where a forwarding address cannot be obtained through reasonable enquiry, a notice may be published in a daily newspaper printed and circulating in the ACT where goods are determined to be valued in excess of \$500.
- 4.4. Former residents are to given seven days to collect any abandoned goods, or they will be disposed of according to the Uncollected Goods Act 1996. Former residents will be charged with the costs of removing their goods from the room, as well as storage and disposal.



4.5. Disposal of Abandoned or Derelict Goods

After seven days, the following disposal rules apply:

- 'Perishable goods' can be disposed of by sale, appropriation or destruction at any time.
- Goods valued at \$20.00 or less can be disposed of by sale, appropriation or destruction after one week.
- Goods of valued between \$20.00 and \$500.00 can be disposed of by sale, appropriation or destruction after one month.
- Goods valued in excess of \$500.00 can be disposed of by public auction after three months.
- Disposal by public auction are to be advertised at least 7 days before the date of the auction.

5. RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- 5.1. Ainslie Village Procedure
- 5.2. Uncollected Goods Act 1996
- 5.3. Policy Definitions Policy
- 5.4. Property-specific Complaints Policies, Procedures and Tools.
- 5.5. National Community Housing Standards Reference - 1.4 Ending Tenancies.

Version Control

Version No.	Review Date	Author	Position	Next Review Date
1.0	01/05/2014	J.Irwin	Acting CEO	30/04/2015
2.0	08/05/2015	T.Stiller	Operations Manager ACT	07/05/2016
2.1	01/05/2016	M.Ward	GM Operations	01/05/2017
3.0	10/01/2018	J.Irwin	Regional Manager West	10/01/2019
4.0	30/08/2019	C.Tizzoni	Team Leader ACT	01/09/2021
5.0	19/10/2021	C.Tizzoni	Operations Manager	19/10/2022
6.0				

