



We need to ensure solar is unlocked for all Victorians, not just those who can afford to own a house. The Greens have a plan to ensure people who rent can also live in comfortable homes that don't cost a fortune to heat and cool.

The Greens welcome the State Government \$1.2 billion investment that provides a 50% rebate for rooftop solar for owner-occupiers. It's a policy that closely resembles the Greens solar savers policy taken to the previous election.

However, one in four Victorians rent their home, and currently have no option to save on their bills through solar. The Government's announcement does nothing for them. It also does nothing to improve energy efficiency in homes rented by Victorians.

OUR PLAN

The Greens' 'Solar for Everyone' Plan will ensure all Victorians can live in a warm, comfortable home, whether they rent, live in public housing or own their own home.

Our plan includes:

- Solar gardens to unlock solar for people who rent or live in apartments.
- Solar panels for every public housing house.
- Minimum energy efficiency standards that landlords must meet by 2024.
- \$1000 grants to replace inefficient, expensive gas heaters with efficient heat pumps.
- New building regulations to require all new homes to have solar panels on the roof or solar hot water if the roof does not allow for solar panels.

SOLAR GARDENS FOR PEOPLE WHO RENT OR LIVE IN AN APARTMENT

People who rent or live in an apartment can buy a solar panel on a nearby building, such as a train station, and the energy it creates is credited to their bill. If they move, they still own the panel and the credit moves with them.

Under the Greens' innovative Solar Gardens solution for people who rent or live in an apartment, \$1000 grants will be made available to help people buy into the Solar Garden scheme. This matches the subsidy that homeowners get through the Victorian Government's owner occupier solar announcement.

Solar Gardens will be built by, and administered by, the Greens' proposed public retailer, Power Victoria. As a public not-for-profit retailer, Power Victoria will be able to guarantee good returns from Solar Gardens, enabling people who rent or live in apartments to save hundreds of dollars a year on their energy bills.

Our Solar Gardens scheme will cost \$10 million a year for the first two years to set up and pilot. We will then allocate \$100 million a year for the next eight years to provide \$1000 rebates to people who rent or own an apartment.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN RENTAL HOMES

The Greens plan will see regulations developed under the Residential Tenancies Act that require landlords to upgrade their houses to meet new minimum energy efficiency standards by 2024. This will include upgrades such as insulation, lighting, and draught-proofing.

Landlords who face financial difficulties in upgrading their houses, or who are providing their homes at below-market rents or on a long-term lease, will be eligible for \$500 energy efficiency grants, with grants available over the next 8 years and capped at \$50 million total.

SOLAR AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING

The Greens' plan will put solar on every public housing home, delivering huge energy savings to disadvantaged Victorians. At \$44500 per home, and with just over 24,000 free-standing public houses in Victoria, the program is estimated to cost \$100 million.

We will also ensure all new public houses with the right roof space, include solar, and that all new and existing public housing meets minimum standards for energy efficiency. We have estimated the cost for bringing existing public housing up to scratch at \$73 million.

SWITCHING OFF GAS HEATING

We know that gas heating contributes to climate change through the release of greenhouse gases, and that gas is becoming more and more expensive. One of the best ways that people can reduce their energy bills is to get off gas, and in particular, switch their heating to an efficient heat pump (such as a reverse-cycle air-conditioner). This uses some of the sun's stored energy in the air to convert to heating for the home.

Our plan would provide \$1000 grants for owner-occupiers and landlords to replace inefficient, expensive gas heaters with efficient heat pumps, further saving money for everyone, including people who rent. This program will be capped at \$22 million over the next 4 years. Therefore, landlords may be eligible to access up to \$1500 total for energy efficiency measures for their properties.

SOLAR FOR NEW HOMES

Our plan will change building rules to require all new homes to have solar panels on the roof or solar hot water if the roof does not allow for solar panels.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

This plan will form part of the Greens fully-costed election platform. Over the forward estimates it will cost approximately \$377 million, and around \$1 billion in total. It will deliver billions in savings for Victorians through reduced bills and significantly contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and avoiding the worst impacts of climate change.

Solar Gardens for people who rent and live in apartments	\$10 million a year for the first two years and \$100 million a year for the next eight years
Energy Efficiency in Rental Homes	\$500 energy efficiency grants, available over the next eight years and capped at \$50 million total
Solar on public housing houses	\$100 million for solar on 24,000 homes over four years
Energy efficiency upgrades in public housing	\$73 million over four years
Switching off gas heating	\$1000 grants for landlords and owner-occupiers, program capped at \$22 million