



All about POSTCARDS!

Info Sheet 1



2026 Budget Campaign

We're hoping to have as many postcards as humanly possible delivered to your local MPs by 14 December 2025. This strategy is proven to be effective and engages the community! All in two easy steps:

Step 1: Open up your pack of postcards and think about how you can get as many of your supporters and community members as possible to sign them!

Please note: We are not asking people to individually stamp and post. We are asking all Neighbourhood Houses to collect all signed postcards and deliver/post to your local State MP. This way the message is received twice, first by your local MP who hopefully already knows and understands your value, and then by the Minister responsible for Neighbourhood Houses as there is an obligation to pass the postcards on to the Minister.

While they're signing, ask the participant if they'd be willing to do a quick video, sharing their response to the prompt "Why I love my Neighbourhood House?" for your social media. Don't forget to add the hashtag **#keepnhdoorsopen** and tag Neighbourhood Houses Victoria so we can share!

Bright Ideas:

- Make a "Postbox" and have a display in the busiest and most accessible place of your Neighbourhood House. Make sure that postcards and pens are available for people to sign and drop in your 'postbox' with the minimum of fuss for them.
- Be proactive! Hand them to everyone and encourage them to hand them back before they leave. (AGMs or festivals or markets for starters)
- Give to every tutor/worker who takes an activity at your organisation to hand out to participants. Have the tutor collect them at the end of the activity.
- Encourage Committee Members and Volunteers to distribute far and wide.
- Run a postcard signing competition! (who can get the most signups) – you could even try to coordinate a competition with your Network or nearby Neighbourhood Houses for some friendly competition!
- Promote on social media, local media, and around the House to encourage your regular participants to join in.



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Step 2: Ok now we have thousands of signed postcards, what do we do with them?

- Bundle them up and deliver them to your State MP. This might be by inviting them to your Neighbourhood House or visiting their office to drop them off.
- MPs, regardless of what political party they are affiliated with are obliged to deliver them to the relevant Minister, the Hon Ros Spence.
- It is far better to deliver them in person, but if this is not possible you can bundle them up and post them.
- Don't delay in delivering or sending! You can deliver/send multiple times to your MP. Its better that we have a constant stream rather than being too late because of waiting for a 'big bulk'. Please start "sending" ASAP! This will mean more discussions are taking place about our sector at all levels of government.
- Please let NHVic know which MP you delivered them to and roughly how many postcards you might have signed and passed on. Even if it's a rough idea that will help us track our impact. We have a very short form you can [update here](#).

Bright Ideas:

- If you're close enough, organise a community walk from the Neighbourhood House to the MP's office.
- Invite the MP to visit your Neighbourhood House to receive the postcards.
- Better yet, invite your local MP to an event at your Neighbourhood House - they can see all that you do and the community can be there to support you.
- Make sure to check the Lobbying Guide for suggestions to help you communicate effectively with the MPs you meet.
- Check [parliamentary sitting calendars](#) to improve your chances of them being available.

**STRONG
COMMUNITIES
START HERE**

