

STATE HOUSING PLAN

1. Background

As noted at previous meetings of the Minister's Local Government Forum, the State Housing Plan will provide a ten year direction for housing across South Australia. It is expected to be completed and provided to the Minister for Housing by October 10 2003.

The planning process for the State Housing Plan has identified the unacceptable and increasing levels of housing stress in South Australia, and the integral role that affordable and appropriate housing plays in achieving economic, social and health outcomes for the State.

Local Government has an important role in many aspects of the housing market. The issues involving State and Local Government identified by the Plan reflect this. These issues include:

- **Infrastructure and Urban Renewal** – the responsibility that Local Government has in the provision of physical and social infrastructure, and the impact of these costs on both councils and housing affordability
- **Urban Renewal** – the enabling role that Local Government can play in urban renewal projects, in partnership with State Government and private developers
- **Development Planning** - the impact that development planning decisions can have on housing affordability, and the influence that Local Government has on development planning and local planning strategies
- **Land Supply** – the provision of adequate land for housing is key to increased affordability. Both State and Local Government play a critical role in the release and pricing of publicly owned land. A proposed review of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Circular 114 will be a significant step towards resolution of this issue (refer agenda item 5.1).

Effective collaboration between Local and State Government will be essential in facilitating solutions to these issues.

2. Action

An extensive Implementation Plan has been prepared that delineates key actions to be taken in order to implement the strategies identified by the State Housing Plan. Progress on these actions is proposed to be reported on an annual basis to the Social Development Committee of Cabinet.

There has been extensive consultation on both the State Housing Plan and the Implementation Plan. Both the Local Government Association and the Office of Local Government have been represented on the State Housing Plan Steering Committee, and individual councils have also made submissions during the process.

Key initiatives in the Implementation Plan that engage Local Government centre on defining and strengthening the role of Local Government in planning for and facilitating affordable housing. Possible actions that have been considered include :

- A project to audit Local Government involvement in housing issues, advise on LGA policy, document good practice examples of Council involvement and to identify support strategies for Local Government
- Working with Local Government to clarify the role of the sector in the provision of affordable housing, by focusing on particular issues such as infrastructure provision, development planning and land supply.

3. Discussion for Forum

The Minister for Housing will be meeting with the President of the Local Government Association on Friday 10 October to discuss the role of Local Government in housing, and the further involvement of Local Government in the implementation of the strategies identified by the State Housing Plan.

The Minister will provide Forum members with a brief verbal update on this meeting.

4. Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Forum:

- 1. Note the Minister for Housing's verbal report on her meeting with the Local Government Association.**
- 2. Consider what further input the Minister's Local Government Forum can have into the development of the State Housing Plan, and the future role of the Forum in the consideration of housing issues.**