



**Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)**  
*"The Peak Body for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia"*

283-285 Payneham Road, Royston Park SA 5070

Ph. (08) 8362 1022 Fax (08) 8362 1944

E-Mail [info@chcsa.org.au](mailto:info@chcsa.org.au) Website <http://www.chcsa.org.au>

---

**Weekly E-Bulletin 34/07 - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2007**

---

- **Condolences ~ Mr Dieter Sczesny**
- **Federal Election 2007 – Candidate Responses ~ updated**
- **Federal Election - Polling Booth Locator**
- **Appeal Policy ~ Office for Community Housing**
- **CHCSA Associations' Forum Meeting ~ Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007 ~ repeated**
- **Community Housing Register ~ Call for Expressions of Interest to be part of the System Development Steering Group ~ Office for Community Housing ~ repeated**
- **2007 Community Housing Sector Recognition Event ~ Office for Community Housing ~ repeated**

---

**Condolences ~ Mr Dieter Sczesny**

It is with deep sadness that the CHCSA extends its heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of the late **Dieter Sczesny** who passed away late last week in Hamley Bridge.

Dieter was greatly involved in Community Housing for many years. As an active and founding Member of the Merz Housing Co-operative, and as an Architect and visionary, Dieter designed 18 x three-storey, high-density, low-cost Town Houses in Adelaide for Merz. The 1997/98 Australian Residential Project Awards saw Dieter awarded the Adelaide prize in recognition of the outstanding design and engineering elements, and the positive contribution the Project provides to public space.

**Dieter's many other activities included;**

- Participating on a number of Committees etc., with our predecessor Co-operative Housing Assistance Service of South Australia (CHASSA);
- Resource Worker with the Community Housing Council of SA (CHCSA)
- Co-operative Sector Representative on the SACHA Board for 4 years
- Chairperson and Board Member of Shelter SA for a number of years

Dieter will be fondly remembered by the CHCSA, it's Board and Staff, by it's Members and the Sector as a whole. His contribution, tenacity, vision, humour and passion has been etched in the legacy he now leaves behind.

**Federal Election 2007 – Candidate Responses ~ updated**

CHCSA distributed a questionnaire to candidates from the following parties or independents for the forthcoming Federal Election:

- ALP
- Liberal Party
- National Party
- Family First Party
- Australian Greens

- Nick Xenophon
- Democrats

To date, responses have been received from the following candidates and members:

- Kate Ellis (ALP - Adelaide)
- Steve Georganas (ALP – Hindmarsh)
- Dana Wortley (ALP – Senate)
- Anne McEwen (ALP - Senate)
- Nick Champion (ALP – Wakefield)
- Penny Wong (ALP – Senate)
- Coalition (Brian Loughnane - Federal Coalition Campaign Director)
- Jodi Kirkby (Australian Greens – Boothby)
- Sarah Hansen-Young (Australian Greens – Senate)
- Graham Smith (Australian Greens – Makin)
- Andrew Jennings (Australian Greens – Barker)

These responses have been compiled and are available via the CHCSA website. Please click <http://www.chcsa.org.au>.

While some candidates/members have indicated they are already in contact with Housing Associations and Co-operatives operating in their electorate, the following candidates/members have indicated they would also like to be in contact with the groups operating in their electorates :

- Kate Ellis – Telephone 8269 2433
- Steve Georganas – Telephone 8376 9000
- Dana Wortley – Telephone 8269 6520
- Nick Champion – Telephone 8280 9960
- Jodi Kirkby – Telephone 0413 600 131
- Sarah Hansen-Young – Telephone 8212 4888
- Graham Smith – Telephone 0410 082 768
- Andrew Jennings – Telephone 8212 4888

If your Housing Association or Housing Co-operative has properties in any of the above electorates, then you can make contact with the candidates/members by ringing the number listed above .

Alternatively you may be able to access the contact details from the party's website. Websites are :

- [www.sa.alp.org.au](http://www.sa.alp.org.au)
- [www.saliberals.org.au](http://www.saliberals.org.au)
- [www.sa.democrats.org.au](http://www.sa.democrats.org.au)
- [www.sa.greens.org.au](http://www.sa.greens.org.au)
- [www.sa.nationals.org.au](http://www.sa.nationals.org.au)

This is an ideal opportunity to build knowledge of community housing in the South Australian community, especially among the decision-makers and people with influence. Hopefully by making contact you will also build political support for community housing.

### **Federal Election - Polling Booth Locator**

Not too sure where you need to go to vote in tomorrow's Federal Election? Click on the link below and just type in your address details and this locator will identify your closest polling booth locations in order to go and vote.

[http://www.aec.gov.au/polling\\_place\\_locator/index.htm](http://www.aec.gov.au/polling_place_locator/index.htm)

### **Appeal Policy ~ Office for Community Housing**

In accordance with amendments to the South Australian Co-operative and Community Housing Act earlier this year, the Office for Community Housing has approved the ***Appeals against decisions made by the Office for Community Housing*** policy.

This appeal policy outlines the process for appeals by Associations and Co-operatives against a decision of the Office for Community Housing (including decisions made by other relevant business units of Housing SA).

The policy is now available on the Office for Community Housing website at [www.communityhousing.sa.gov.au](http://www.communityhousing.sa.gov.au) or by contacting OCH on (08) 8207 0233

### **CHCSA Associations' Forum ~ December '07 Meeting ~ repeated item**

The next meeting of the Housing Associations' Forum will be held on **Friday 7th December** from 9.30am to 12noon in the CHCSA Boardroom at 285 Payneham Rd Royston Park.

The main topic of discussion will be the draft **Business Planning Kit and Cashflow Spreadsheet** recently prepared by CHCSA for the benefit of Not-for-Profit Housing providers. We look forward to receiving your feedback.

Draft versions of the Business Planning Kit and Cashflow Spreadsheet are now available for downloading from the CHCSA website. Please click <http://www.chcsa.org.au> . *(Please note; this file is 2.3MBs and may take some time to download and open).*

This Forum will also hear a report back on recent negotiations designed to improve access to **Local Council rate rebates** for Housing Associations and Co-operatives.

There will also be an update on the **stock inspection process**. By now, all Community Housing Organisations should have received their Reports from the Office for Community Housing. Please contact your Office for Community Housing Consultant if you have any questions or have not received your Organisation's reports.

### **Community Housing Register ~ Call for Expressions of Interest to be part of the System Development Steering Group ~ Office for Community Housing ~ repeated item**

A tender has been called to appoint a developer to work with us to build the **Community Housing Register**, a web-based IT tool that will centrally record **Registrations for Community Housing**. The selection process will be finalised before Christmas with a provider contracted to commence development in the New Year.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to provide feedback along the way and has helped to frame system requirements.

As we enter the system development phase, it is more crucial than ever that what we build is workable for you, as providers of Community Housing. We therefore invite Sector Representation onto the Steering Group who will work alongside Developers to guide design and implementation of the Community Housing Register. It is anticipated this group will meet at least monthly during development (approximately 6 months) commencing in the New Year.

The Steering Group will also comprise representatives from the Office for Community Housing, Housing SA and the Community Housing Council of SA. If you are interested in being part of this Steering Group, please complete the **Expression of Interest Form** (from CHCSA Website, click <http://www.chcsa.org.au> to download the form). Return the completed Form to the Office for Community Housing at the address on the Form. The **closing date for Expressions of Interest is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December**.

**Four** positions are available on the Steering Group (two Association representatives and 2 Co-operatives representatives) however, everyone expressing their interest will be invited to be part of a larger Reference Group who will play an important role in testing system functionality at key milestones.

For an overview of how the Community Housing Register will operate, visit our website at [www.communityhousing.sa.gov.au](http://www.communityhousing.sa.gov.au) and go to News/Sector Information Day Presentations/Community Housing Register, to take a look at the presentation provided at the Sector Information Day held in June.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Lynley Street, Project Officer at the Office for Community Housing on (08) 8207 0131 or via <mailto:lynley.street@dfc.sa.gov.au>.

**2007 Community Housing Sector Recognition Event - Office for Community Housing~ repeated item**

The **Office for Community Housing** would like to invite members of the Community Housing Sector to attend their 2007 Community Housing Sector Recognition event to be held on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2007**. The event will be held between 3-5pm at the Saracens Head Hotel, located at 82 Carrington Street (between Pulteney & King William Streets, Adelaide).

Drinks and nibbles will be provided. The venue has a limited capacity so members are asked to RSVP promptly to avoid disappointment. Please contact the Office for Community Housing on (08) 8207 0233 by Friday 7 December 2007 to RSVP your attendance.

*It is expected that photos will be taken at this event which may be used later for promotional purposes by the Office for Community Housing. By attending this event your consent for the use of any photos taken for this purpose is implied. If you do NOT wish to consent to your photo being used in the future, please advise us when submitting your RSVP for the event.*

<p><b><u>STAFF</u></b>          Executive Officer - Ciarán Synnott          Manager,          Admin/Finance/Communications - Maria Demasi          Administration Officer - Ante Gajic          Senior Policy Officers - Matt Fisher &amp; David Kilner          Sector Resource Worker - Philip Studt          Spanish Speaking Worker - Domingo Garcia</p>	<p><b><u>CASUAL TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS</u></b>          Casual Trainers – Liz McCarthy, Graeme Gow, Philip Studt, Kate Reynolds</p>
--	--

**DIARY DATES**

Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	CHCSA Management Committee Meeting
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	CHCSA Disability Focus Group Meeting
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	CHCSA Associations' Forum
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	CHCSA Hills & Southern Forum
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	CHCSA Central Forum

-Bulletin, please click on the following link and place the word "unsubscribe" in the Subject Header. <mailto:info@chcsa.org.au>.

**Disclaimer**

*CHCSA makes every effort to provide accurate and useful information in its E-Bulletin and other publications but accepts no liability for the use of the material by individuals or organisations. Individuals or organisations may need to seek independent professional advice regarding their specific situation.*