



Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)

"The Peak Body for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia"

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Weekly E-Bulletin 03/06 - Friday 24th February 2006

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Upcoming CHCSA Associations' Forum

The CHCSA wish to advise Housing Associations that the next **Associations' Forum** is scheduled on **Friday 3rd March 2006** from **9.30am - 12noon** (in the CHCSA Board Room, 285 Payneham Road, Royston Park).

Guest Speaker at the Forum will be **Peter Stojanovich** in his new role as **Operations Manager of the Affordable Housing Innovations Unit**. Also on the Agenda will be the opportunity to co-opt 2 Associations' Reps; 1 to fill a casual vacancy on the CHCSA Policy Committee, and 1 to fill a casual vacancy on the CHCSA Management Committee.

The CHCSA Associations' Forum is **open** to all Community Housing Associations and is held on the **first** Friday of each month from 9.30am - 12noon (in the CHCSA Board Room).

Community Housing Awareness Campaign

The **Community Housing Council of South Australia Inc., (CHCSA)** has recently published a small brochure for the State Election to be held on 18th March 2006. The brochure contains background information on Community Housing, as well as presenting key issues in community housing for the consideration of electors and politicians.

The CHCSA has posted this brochure to its Members, Politicians and other interested people and will distribute further copies at our upcoming Forums. We do have additional copies of the brochure available and if you are wanting more copies, please contact the CHCSA on (08) 8362 1022 or via e-mail at <mailto:info@chcsa.org.au>. The campaign brochure is also available for viewing or download on our Website at <http://www.chcsa.org.au>.

"Community Housing Has its Say" - State Election 18th March 2006

The Community Housing Council of South Australia Inc invites CHOs to submit questions and comments on community housing issues to the CHCSA. Questions and comments can be submitted by phone or via e-mail, up until the 4th March 2006.

The CHCSA will then collate your questions and comments and submit them to the relevant Party spokesperson for a response. **We will publish the responses in this e-bulletin on 17th March 2006.**

Other ways in which you can have your say:

- Visit your local member and discuss how community housing helps you
- Contact the other candidates in your electorate and give them more information about community housing and its benefits
- Telephone talk-back radio and provide information about the benefits of community housing and what you would like the Government to do for the sector
- Write letters to the State and local Press about your experience of community housing and how it can benefit people.

We need to send a clear and widespread message to the political parties that **Community Housing** has a vital role to play in meeting housing needs and that it needs their support.

Remember - SACHA's projections show that for the next couple of years, barely more than one hundred dwellings per annum will be added to the community housing stock. **Given high levels of need, we must do better than this!**

Condolences ~ Hon Terry Roberts MLC

The Community Housing Council of South Australia notes with deep regret the death of **Hon Terry Roberts MLC** last weekend and extends sincere condolences to his family.

Terry was elected to the Legislative Council in 1985 and served as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Correctional Services in the Rann Government elected in 2002.

Terry was a man with a deep commitment to social justice and carried this fight through more than 20 years of service in the Parliament and beyond.

Terry was a true friend of Community Housing, one of those always willing to speak on behalf of the Sector when the need arose. Terry was one of the earlier advocates of Co-operative Housing and was particularly supportive around the time of the 1989 Review and the subsequent passage of the co-operative legislation.

He will be greatly missed.

"Housing Policy in South Australia Since White Settlement" ~ David Kilner

Housing Policy in South Australia Since White Settlement is a study at the regional level of how housing policy in an advanced industrial society – and former British colony - has been shaped by a variety of domestic and international forces since 1836.

Housing Policy in South Australia since White Settlement will be useful to anyone wishing to broaden their knowledge of how countries settled by Europeans evolved, or with an interest in comparative housing policy. Issues covered include public health, building controls, planning and development, housing finance, taxation, social housing and tenancy law. The rise of home ownership and social housing are carefully charted. Linkages to economic development are explored.

Dr Kilner sets housing policy in the unfolding context of the times, showing how national and international trends and developments played their part in shaping South Australian Housing Policy.

David Kilner trained as a social worker and practiced in the aged care and housing fields before pursuing doctoral studies in housing policy at Adelaide University. He subsequently worked as a health researcher before becoming a government policy worker in the area of housing. He managed the Housing Strategy Unit for the South Australian Housing Trust. Since leaving government service in 1994 he has practiced as a consultant and trainer in the human services field, specialising in policy, research, evaluation and program development, and also worked as a policy officer in a non-government agency supporting family carers. He has taught sociology and evaluation methodology at the University of South Australia. He is currently **Senior Policy Officer** for the **Community Housing Council of South Australia Inc.**, and also maintains his consultancy practice. Dr Kilner is the author of *From Dream to Reality : a History of the Northern Suburbs Housing Co-operative*.

The cost of the book is \$46.00 including postage and handling within Australia. For orders, please David on (08) 8342 4130 or visit <http://www.davidkilner.com/orderfm.htm>.

GIVEAWAY to any Community Housing Organisation Member/Tenant

GIVEAWAY approximately 40 square metres of high quality carpet. The carpet is currently rolled up ready for collection from a Klemzig home. The carpet is a high cut pile grey coloured carpet.

If anyone is interested, please contact Anthony or Maria at the CHCSA and we will put you in touch with the resident.

Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) - Issues for 2006 ~ Information Session

Business SA will be hosting this information session to be held on Monday 6th march 2006 from 1pm - 3.30pm at Enterprise House, 136 Greenhill Road, Unley.

This information session will look at the new developments in FBT in 2005-2006, review some of the common employee benefit scenarios, and address other issues that impact upon the area of employee remuneration, including:

- current FBT issues raised at ATO liaison meetings in 2005;
- Taxation Rulings and FBT determinations for 2005-2006;
- the questions the ATO may ask in an FBT audit, the common errors and what the ATO audit plans are for 2005-2006;
- FBT-related Court & Tribunal decisions in 2005-2006;
- the GST role in salary packaging;
- the FBT impact on social functions, eg. Christmas parties and other minor benefits;
- basic salary packaging examples showing impact of FBT and employee contributions to the cost of the benefits provided.

Attendees will receive a copy of the presentation slides. In addition, participants will also receive a copy of Business SA's comprehensive "Fringe Benefits Tax - the issues for 2006" information paper.

To Book, please contact Business SA on (08) 8300 0113 - Cost is \$132 (incl. GST). Alternatively, **CHCSA Members** (only) can book via the CHCSA for only \$99 (incl. GST). Please contact Maria at the CHCSA on (08) 8362 1022.

Community Housing Vision Day ~ Article provided by Monique Pringle (SACHA)

SACHA wishes to thank everyone who came to the **Community Housing Vision Day** to contribute their ideas to the future of Community Housing!

It was a really successful day, held on **Wednesday 15th February** at the Entertainment Centre. With all Co-operative members and Association Board members invited in December, there was a

good representation of the sector with 140 people present, plus Community Housing Authority staff.

The percentage of attendees was 57% Co-operative members; with Associations making up 24% of attendees and Others (CHCSA, HASSA, Appeal Panel members later in the day etc) being 19%. There were 16 Associations represented which is 34% of total Associations; and 23 Co-operatives represented which is 30% of the total number of Co-operatives in the sector.

Building a strong Community Housing sector!

The day began with messages from Brendan Moran, General Manager of the Community Housing Authority, and Eleanor Ramsay, Chair of the Community Housing Authority Board.

There was plenty of discussion time to consider key issues facing community housing – such as how the sector will look in the future; how it should be monitored by Government and what kind of assistance is required by CHOs to help them operate well.

Thank you again to all who attended – a summary of your feedback, and a draft Vision for Community Housing document will be put on the Community Housing Authority website and posted out in April.

In the meantime, for enquiries regarding the Vision for Community Housing please contact Monique Pringle at the Community Housing Authority on 8207 0134 or by e-mail on <mailto:monique.pringle@dfc.sa.gov.au>.

Community Housing Application System Update

At the Vision Day, Lynley Street gave an update on the Community Housing Application System and asked all CHOs to send to her the information the CHO would like included about it in the new Application/Information Packs.

CHOs are also asked to review the draft Application forms (on the website) and give feedback to Lynley by the end of March. Any queries on this call Lynley on (08) 8207 0131 or e-mail <mailto:lynley.street@dfc.sa.gov.au>.

Community Housing Dispute Resolution and Appeal System

The Vision Day concluded with the launch of the Community Housing Dispute Resolution and Appeal System by Sue Crafter, Executive Director of Housing Strategy, DFC. The Chair of the Community Housing Appeal Panel, Kathleen McEvoy, also spoke, outlining the importance of appeal processes and introducing the role of the Appeal Panel and the Appeal Unit (contactable on (08) 8207 0800).

The Appeal documents will be placed on the Community Housing Authority website and posted to all CHOs in the near future. Questions on the appeal system can be directed to the CHO Services staff on (08) 8207 0233.

<u>STAFF</u> Executive Officer - Ciarán Synnott Manager, Admin/Finance/Communications - Maria Demasi Administration Officer - Ante Gajic Senior Policy Officers - Matt Fisher & David Kilner Spanish Speaking Worker - Domingo Garcia	<u>CASUAL TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS</u> Casual Trainers – Liz McCarthy, and Graeme Gow Volunteers – Renfrey Ansell and Evette Johnson
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DIARY DATES

Wednesday 1st March	CHCSA Disability Focus Group
Friday 3rd March	CHCSA Associations' Forum
Monday 6th March	CHCSA Hills and Southern Forum
Wednesday 8th March	CHCSA Central Forum
Friday 10th March	CHCSA Policy Committee Meeting
Saturday 11th March	CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum
MONDAY 13th MARCH	ADELAIDE CUP CARNIVAL AND VOLUNTEER'S DAY
Tuesday 14th March	CHCSA Northern Forum

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