



## Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)

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

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### Weekly E-Bulletin 09/07 - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2007

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#### **Greens Oppose Affordable Housing Bill While Family First Seeks Amendments**

Debate on the Affordable Housing Bill continued in the Legislative Council on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March. The **Greens** have sought deferment of the Bill until after the Federal Election. The **Greens** do not support the overall thrust of the Bill in abandoning South Australia's traditional commitment to an independent SA Housing Trust housing a range of household types and incomes. The **Greens** believe that we need new resources and more investment in the public housing sector. The Greens do however support the Government's intention to increase the supply of community housing. They are also concerned that the loss of community voice in the co-operative sector through some rejigging of statutory authorities will lead to less community input.

**Family First** support the overall thrust of the Bill but have proposed an amendment to the Government's proposal for a new power to impose a covenant over non-government properties funded through the Affordable Housing Program. **Family First** proposes that the covenant can only be amended with the consent of the party over whose land the covenant is placed. It is apparent from the Hansard record that the Government intends to support this amendment. The amendment is the result of lobbying by the Inter-Church Housing Unit which was concerned that the original wording of the covenant would have led to a decline in participation in community housing ventures by churches and financiers.

It is understood the Bill is unlikely to be passed until the end of April as primarily due to the Easter/Anzac Day break.

#### **Australasian Housing Researchers Conference 2007**

The **2nd Australasian Housing Researchers' Conference** is being organised by the Housing Policy Research Program for **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2007** at the University of Queensland. It will be held at Customs House, the University of Queensland's conference facility located on the Brisbane River in Brisbane's CBD.

The purpose of the conference is to bring together researchers from Australian, New Zealand and international universities, and industry and sector research units, to present research findings and analyse contemporary issues in housing policy research.

The overarching theme of the conference, **'Reshaping Australasian Housing Research'** draws attention to a range of issues confronting the Australasian housing research community. They include:

- *The relations between housing research and housing policy, and the issue of 'research impact' in housing studies;*
- *The factors and forces impinging on the 'housing research agenda' and the need to reconsider and perhaps refocus core research questions;*
- *The relationship between theory and research, and the task of developing a theoretical foundation for housing research;*
- *The task of positioning Australasian housing research in an international context, and developing comparative analysis of housing policies and systems;*
- *The task of better organising Australasian housing research, including the implications of the Research Quality Framework in Australia, and the issue of the development of an 'Australasian Network of Housing Research'.*

The **conference will include papers** on a wide range of themes and issues pertinent to analysis of housing needs and problems, the housing system and housing policy in Australasia and internationally. Papers dealing with all aspects of **housing research** including (but not exclusively) those in the following topics areas will be welcome:

- *Housing theory and housing research*
- *Methodological issues in housing research*
- *Cross-national and comparative housing research*
- *The housing research field (funding, capacity building, research training, organisation)*
- *Relationship of housing research and social science disciplines*
- *Housing and other domains of knowledge (health, labour markets, economic development)*
- *Housing and homelessness*
- *Housing careers and pathways*
- *Housing affordability and affordable housing*
- *Housing assistance programs*
- *The housing system and housing markets*
- *Housing and urban management and development*
- *Indigenous housing*
- *Housing needs and policies for specific population groups (older people, young people, families, immigrants, etc.)*
- *Housing and the environment*
- *Housing design and adaptability*
- *Emerging issues in housing research and policy*

Further information including program, costs and to book online are available from the Conference Website. Please click [here](#).

### **National Housing Co-operative Conference 2007: Reflection, Celebration & Vision ~ by Community Housing Federation of Victoria (CHFV)**

CHFV is pleased to advise that a one **day National Housing Co-operative Conference**. The conference will be held at State Netball & Hockey Centre in Royal Park, Melbourne on **Thursday 20th September 2007**, and will be a time for Reflection, Celebration & Vision of the Housing Co-operative model in Australia.

The conference is for Housing Co-operative tenants, housing workers, service providers, policy makers, state and local government delegates, academics and others focused on and interested in retaining a vibrant and viable Co-operative housing model.

#### **Included in the program is:**

- A selection of short films celebrating Co-op tenant stories
- International & national key-note guest speakers and presentations
- Nine concurrent dynamic workshop options

- Networking and discussion opportunities
- Conference dinner and entertainment
- Post Conference Event: A half day bus tour of some of Melbourne's Community Housing

CHCSA Executive Officer **Mr Ciarán Synnott** will be a Guest Presenter for Conference Workshop "**Changes for Housing Co-operatives in South Australia**".

Further information including Program, costs and Conference Registration Forms are available from the Conference Website. Please click [here](#).

**Community Housing Appeals Process ~ Update**

Following on from our notice in the Weekly E-Bulletin 0/07 - Friday 30th March 2007, the meeting will be held on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2007**, will be facilitated by an Independent Chair and will include representatives of the following;

- CHCSA Policy Committee
- Residential Tenancies Tribunal
- Community Housing Appeals Panel
- Public and Community Housing Appeals Unit
- Office for Community Housing Staff
- CHCSA Staff

In the meantime, we would like to request that if any Community Housing Organisation has a particular concern or issue about the current Appeals process that they would like raised, then please forward that to the CHCSA ASAP. The CHCSA will collate the questions and forward them to the respective bodies in order to prepare a response for the meeting.

Your questions/concerns can be forwarded to the CHCSA via [e-mail](#), or via Post, marked attention to the CHCSA Policy Committee, 283-285 Payneham Road, Royston Park SA 5070.

**Notice for Comhouse Members ~ from Comhouse**

*Fly screens repaired or replaced  
Material costs only*

**Do properties in your CHO have fly screens that need replacing? Is cost an issue to your CHO or you?**

Comhouse is pleased to be able to offer to all of our members; access to low cost fly screens for either windows or doors. We can repair existing ones or replace them, depending on their age or what you need. Your Community Housing Organisation will only have to pay for the materials – we will repair or measure, make and install new fly screens.

This service will be provided through one of our *Work For the Dole* programs, which has been set up specifically for this purpose. All work will be supervised by our qualified building supervisor who has many years experience in this area of the building industry. You might want to get in early as this cost saving offer will be extremely popular.

Register your interest with Comhouse as soon as possible in writing; via the post, [e-mail](#) or fax (82351566). Requests will be dealt with as quickly and efficiently as possible, depending on how many requests we receive.

<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</p>	<p><b><u>CASUAL TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS</u></b>          Casual Trainers – Liz McCarthy, Graeme Gow, Philip Studt, Kate Reynolds          Volunteers – Evette Johnson, Renfrey Ansell and Anton Studt</p>
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Sector Resource Worker - Philip Studt Spanish Speaking Worker - Domingo Garcia	
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**DIARY DATES**

<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum</b>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY - ANZAC DAY</b>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Disability Focus Group Meeting</b>
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Associations' Forum</b>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Central Forum</b>
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Co-op. Rep. Council Meeting</b>
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Policy Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum</b>
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>CHCSA Southern Forum</b>

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**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.*