

MEDIA RELEASE

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Summit to press for strong Affordable Housing targets for Sydney

Sydney councils, community housing, investors, developers, planners, and leading academics will come together at an Affordable Housing Forum on July 24 to design real-world solutions to meeting growing demand for Affordable Housing models in greater Sydney.

The NSW Premier will be represented at the opening of the Affordable Housing Forum by the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Special Minister of State. Minister Roberts and the Greater Sydney Commission's Social Commissioner, Heather Nesbitt are Special Guests and key note speakers at the forum.

The Affordable Rental Housing Target of 5% to 10% proposed by the Greater Sydney Commission in its six draft District Plans will prompt debate about what the right target should be and how it can best work in practice, as experts explore pathways and solutions.

The Forum will also cover:

- planning mechanisms, local government and affordable housing;
- urban renewal, affordable housing and targets;
- community housing sector, affordable housing and services delivery;
- development finance and community infrastructure funding challenges;
- best practice models and options.

Quotes attributable to:

Social Commissioner for the Greater Sydney Commission, Heather Nesbitt:

"Affordable rental housing is part of our overall plan to create a more equitable, productive, liveable and sustainable Greater Sydney."

CEO, NSW Federation of Housing Associations, Wendy Hayhurst.

"In the next 19 years at least 100,000 affordable housing dwellings are needed for lower income households priced out of the market. Without this housing many of workers this area needs are either going to up sticks and move out or face long and expensive commutes. This forum is an opportunity to do something positive to tackle this challenge."

SSROC President, Councillor Sally Betts :

"Affordable housing safeguards community diversity and enabling mechanisms and collaboration with key stakeholders such as the community housing sector can lead to substantial affordable housing to meet diverse community needs. Councils look forward to game changing solutions as affordable housing, including for key workers, is crucial to Sydney's prosperity and competitiveness". In this regard, the Forum is a great opportunity, Cr Betts said.

The forum will be hosted by [Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils \(SSROC\)](http://ssroc.nsw.gov.au) and the [Planning Institute of Australia \(PIA\)](http://pia.org.au), in collaboration with [Community Housing Providers](http://communityhousingproviders.org.au), on Monday, 24 July at the Aerial Function Centre, UTS.

More information: <http://ssroc.nsw.gov.au/planning-and-advocacy/affordable-housing-forum-2017/>

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