

9 August 2010

International Experts to Consider Australia's Housing Shortage

Three international experts will participate in a one-day Summit being convened by the Housing Industry Association in Sydney tomorrow: 'Financing Urban Infrastructure - Australia's Housing Future'.

"The inequitable 'user pays' funding model for infrastructure is adding considerably to the price of new housing as well as reducing the supply of new housing," said HIA Chief Economist, Dr Harley Dale.

"The current funding model is untenable and alternative models need to be considered and adopted. HIA's Infrastructure Summit includes three eminent international speakers who will discuss contemporary experiences and consider future options for reducing one of the largest barriers to boosting Australia's new housing supply," Harley Dale added.

Professor Glen Bramley

Professor of Urban Studies Heriot-Watt University – USA

Professor Bramley has been a Professor of Urban Studies at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh since 1994. During such time he has lead research on planning, housing and urban policy. Prior to this Professor Bramley lectured in Urban Studies at the University of Bristol specialising in local government finance, housing and economic aspects of public policy. Professor Bramley has published papers and extensive research analysing the economics around housing affordability and its relationship with planning and house building.

Dr Duncan MacLennan CBE FRSE AcSS

Director of the Centre for Housing Research – University of St Andrews & former Chief Economist, Infrastructure Canada – UK

Professor MacLennan, an internationally renowned expert in the areas of cities, neighbourhood renewal and housing economics, is the Director of the Centre for Housing Research at the University of St Andrews, Scotland. He has held senior government and academic positions in Australia and Canada and advised governments on housing policy in UK, Poland, France, Sweden, Ireland, New Zealand, Canada and Australia. Professor MacLennan was appointed this year by the Australian Government to serve on the Expert Advisory Panel on capital city strategic planning systems.

Mrs Laura Lockwood-McCall

Director, Debt Management Division (DMD), Oregon State Treasury – USA

Oregon State Treasury through the DMD provides central coordination and approval for the issuance of all state agency and authority bonds used in financing infrastructure totalling over \$2 billion per year. Ms Lockwood-McCall served for many years in local governments in California and Florida and at the state level in Virginia. In these jurisdictions Ms Lockwood-McCall has overseen the coordination, sale and issuance of over \$25 billion in municipal bonds and notes for a wide array of state and local government projects around the country.

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