

## HOUSING INNOVATION UNIT UPDATE

ISSUE 1, 23 APRIL 2009

### In this issue

- Welcome
- What is the Housing Innovation Unit?
- Meet the Team
- Join Our Contacts List
- Upcoming Expression of Interest Processes
- Feedback from the Housing Innovation Unit's Regional Road Shows
- **Property Council Forum** – Last Chance to Hear Key Speakers on Economic Stimulus Package

### Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the Housing Innovation Unit's (HIU) regular email update. These newsletters have been established to help the HIU keep key stakeholders informed about progress as the Social Housing Initiative of the Nation Building - Economic Stimulus Plan is rolled out across Tasmania. The HIU will send these regular updates to members of our contact list by close of business Friday every fortnight.

### What is the HIU?

The HIU is a business unit within Tasmanian Government that works closely with Housing Tasmania and in partnership with other government, non government and private sector organisations.

HIU is responsible for driving the delivery of innovative approaches to increasing the supply and condition of social and affordable housing in Tasmania.

HIU leads a broad housing reform agenda that includes the construction of new homes for social housing, affordable home ownership programs, private rental assistance, reducing homelessness and land development for social and affordable housing projects.

Most importantly, this reform agenda includes the implementation of the Nation Building – Economic Stimulus Plan's Social Housing Initiative in Tasmania. For further information about the HIU and its capital works program, visit the HIU's [Homepage](#) and [Economic Stimulus Plan](#) websites.

### Meet the Team

The HIU is lead by Bernadette Jago who has been appointed as Tasmania's Social Housing Coordinator under the Economic Stimulus Plan and Peter White who is the Director of the HIU. Bernadette and Peter have a dedicated team who are working hard to meet the Stimulus Plan's tight timelines. Team members include Richard Gilmore, Jessemy Stone, Philip Williams, Kristy Warren, Emil Kavic, Tony Jacques and Amanda Daly. To speak to any of the team members phone Kristy Warren on 6236 5619.

### Join Our Contacts List

To receive regular email updates such as this join the HIU's contact list by contacting Amanda Daly on 6233 5038 or email [amanda.daly@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:amanda.daly@dhhs.tas.gov.au).

### Upcoming Expressions of Interest Processes

The Tasmanian Government is about to seek Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for Stage 2 of the Economic Stimulus Plan's Social Housing Initiative against three major categories. Advertising materials will be placed in regional newspapers and online to advise interested parties of the EOI process.

1. Not-for-Profit Housing Associations
2. Housing Construction – Off the Plan Purchases
3. Housing Construction – Sale of Land

Given the tight timeframes that have been set in order to rapidly stimulate the building and construction industry, interested parties will need to respond to the EOI within a short timeframe. Interested parties are encouraged to start thinking about potential projects now. Visit the HIU's [Economic Stimulus Plan](#) website for further information and stay posted for updates to this site as more information is made available.

### Feedback from the HIU's Regional Road Shows

The HIU Team have hosted a series of regional information sessions to communicate upcoming opportunities for the building and construction industry and Not-for-Profit housing providers under the Economic Stimulus Package. An initial round of information sessions were held in Burnie, Launceston and Hobart in March in relation to Stage 1 of the Social Housing Initiative. A further series of information sessions were then jointly held by the HIU and Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) in April in relation to Stage 2. The information sessions were attended by a wide range of stakeholders from such diverse fields as building and construction, Not-for-Profit community housing, Local Government, architecture, town planning and real estate. The last information session held in Hobart was particularly successful with attendance reaching well over 70 stakeholders and exceeding all expectations.

For copies of the latest presentations delivered at the HIU's Regional Road Shows visit the [Economic Stimulus Plan](#) website and refer to the features section.

### Property Council Forum – Last Chance to Hear Key Speakers on Economic Stimulus Package

If you are thinking of making a submission under Stage 2 of the Economic Stimulus Package you may like to take the opportunity to attend the final information forum to be held in Tasmania prior to the start of the EOI process.

A joint State Government and Property Council of Australia information forum will be held in Hobart on Tuesday 28 April 2009 between 1.00pm and 5.00pm. The forum will cover both the Social Housing Initiative and the Building the Education Revolution components of the Economic Stimulus Package and feature guest speakers from the HIU, Department of Treasury and Finance, Department of Education, Property Council, Master Builders Tasmania, Residential Development Council, Community Housing Limited and Xsquared Architects.

For further information about the forum visit the [Property Council of Australia's website](#).

To RSVP your attendance at the forum visit phone Kristy Warren on 6236 5619 or email [kristy.warren@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:kristy.warren@dhhs.tas.gov.au).