

## Media Release

Tuesday 5 July 2022

---

### Peak Property Body: Census is a Strata Story

Peak property body Strata Community Association (Qld) (SCA (Qld)) has today called for all levels of Government to take heed of census data and put strata housing at the forefront of policy-making.

SCA (Qld) Senior-Vice President Chris Irons believes the growth of strata style housing, which continues to accelerate needs to be taken very seriously by Government at all levels.

“A quick examination of the housing data from the census indicates a tremendous trend towards higher density apartment living. At the 2016 census, there were estimated to be just over 1.2 million occupied apartments across the country. That figure has exploded to approximately 1.7 million. That’s about 100,000 apartments being constructed on average every year,” said Mr. Irons.

“Apartments counted for nearly one-third of total new private dwellings in the five years since 2016. In addition to this, almost three out of ten dwellings across the country are now strata in the form of either apartments or townhouses.”

“Now for the first time over 10% of Australians live in an apartment. Governments of all stripes need to look at this as perhaps the biggest demographic and social shift in the last 50 years.”

Mr Irons said he hoped the trend towards strata living was appropriately supported by Government and that reforms to strata law and service delivery reflected this trend.

“Strata housing can be a huge part of the solution to many of the big picture problems our society faces, and we are glad to see it being embraced by a growing portion of Australians,” said Mr Irons.

“There needs to be recognition of this growing shift to shared housing, the days of a quarter-acre block with a yard being the norm are rapidly receding. Reforms are needed to help ensure we manage this shift correctly.”

“Strata developments can allow more people to have access to services, public transport and jobs which are still densely packed near our city centres. We can enhance the lifestyle of many city dwellers by making it easier for them to walk or cycle to work, giving them more access to public transport by continuing to densify our urban landscapes with strata.”

“State strata law and housing policy generally need to reflect the fact strata properties are growing at a faster rate than ever before, and we need to prepare for their eventual dominance of the urban landscape. This is not something to be feared, particularly with correct planning.”

“ Strata reforms to make communities more harmonious, guaranteeing quality construction and making it easier for owners to get fair value out of service contracts and have any disputes resolved quickly are all a big part of making life easier for the growing portion of Australians choosing strata.”

Mr Irons believes many of Australians big issues will have strata developments at the core of their overall solutions.

“ Strata properties are more affordable than detached dwellings, help make more efficient use of land and have tremendous potential in terms of energy efficiency,” said Mr Irons.

“ Australians are embracing this type of housing and it is time for Government to recognise this and get ahead of the curve with positive reforms to help strata flourish for the rest of the 21st century.”

Ends.

---

**Media inquiries:**

Contact SCA Queensland Policy Officer, Kristian Marlow on 0437 176 366 or [advocacy.qld@strata.community](mailto:advocacy.qld@strata.community)

**About Strata Community Association (Qld)**

SCA (Qld) is the peak association supporting the state's strata sector, with more than 1,200 individual and corporate members who help oversee, advise, and manage hundreds of thousands of lots across Queensland. The association brings together people who manage strata schemes, own units or live in

strata communities, and those who provide products and services for schemes. We also provide education, advice, and advocacy to enable better understanding of the regulations, obligations and owner's rights.