

Media Release

12 September 2022

High in the Sky Solution to Housing Crisis Isn't Pie in the Sky

Peak Property Body Strata Community Association Queensland ("SCA (Qld)") has today come out strongly offering itself as the solution to the ongoing housing crisis in Queensland. SCA (Qld) General Manager Laura Bos has said that it is time for Government of all levels to look up and find their solution to this ongoing problem for Queensland.

"The single biggest lever Government could pull would be to look up high in the sky and allow for quality built strata buildings to become a greater part of our existing urban landscape," said Ms Bos.

"In Brisbane the gap between an average unit and an average detached house is almost four hundred thousand dollars; by looking up and filling the gaps in the skyline, we can help more Queenslanders into affordable housing."

"This clearly shows that well built strata property is the silver bullet when it comes to housing affordability, putting downward pressure on both rents and prices."

Ms Bos says discussions around land release, build to rent and other periphery solutions fail to create new properties for people to own and the security that brings.

"We support housing choice and home ownership. Build to rent and discussions about releasing land on urban fringes won't create the best outcomes. Studies have shown that people who own their own homes and have shorter commute times have better mental health outcomes. The path to this is not urban sprawl, it is quality built strata properties close to jobs and services which give people a real opportunity at home ownership," said Ms Bos.

"No amount of tax incentives, grants and programs will facilitate sufficient livable and affordable housing supply like strata can."

Ms Bos said that with sustainability more important than ever, debates about land release missed the mark.

"More urban sprawl is not the solution. Urban sprawl will lead to worse environmental and social outcomes whilst not giving people the opportunity to own property near jobs and essential services."

"Urban sprawl is code for land clearing, which accelerates climate change and is particularly damaging to the welfare of many of our native species especially koalas. "

Ms Bos believes all levels of Government need to accept the reality of strata being a part of the solution, no matter how unpalatable it may have seemed in years gone past.

" The time for opposing strata on spurious grounds is over. If we grab this opportunity in the right way, well built strata will give greater access to community, services and facilities for a much greater share of Queenslanders."

Ends.

Media inquiries:

Contact SCA Queensland Policy Officer, Kristian Marlow on 0437 176 366 or 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.