

ENHR Institutional Members News

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute

The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) is a national not-for-profit independent network organisation that funds, conducts, disseminates and tailors high quality research on housing, homelessness and cities. Its work informs the policies and practices of governments, industry and the community sector, and stimulates debate in the broader community.

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About AHURI research reports

The dissemination of AHURI funded research is central to AHURI's mission of providing a high quality evidence base for policy development. Typically, AHURI funded projects result in three research publications: Positioning Papers, Final Reports and Research and Policy Bulletins.

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New research funded

The following 12 projects have been selected for 2012 **National Housing Research Program** funding. Further details for each project will be released in March.

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1 Preventing first time homelessness amongst older Australians

This research will contribute to improved responses to first time homelessness in later life by analysing the nature of the problem, the precipitating factors and successful interventions.

2 The financing of residential development in Australia

This project provides policy makers with an understanding of the complexity of property finance, its role in the supply of all housing types and tenures and the impact of the GFC on property lending.

3 Changing spatial distribution of lower-income housing: understanding and responding to transport disadvantage

This project will provide empirical measures of the extent and effects of transport disadvantage associated with changing spatial concentrations of lower-income rental housing in Melbourne and Sydney; and review formal mechanisms between housing and transport policy.

4 Public housing stock transfers in Australia: past, present and prospective

This project will investigate stock transfer models in Australia and identify enabling factors and barriers to more substantial transfers to third sector housing providers. It will inform and shape the policy framework for achieving the stated objective of boosting to 35 per cent the share of social housing under not-for-profit providers.

5 Community Land Trusts and Indigenous communities: from strategies to outcomes

Building on a current [AHURI research project](#), this project will develop a working Community Land Trust (CLT) model with specific Indigenous NSW communities and explore CLT issues in the Northern Territory.

6 Tall tales and true: housing stories from ABS data

This project updates past key AHURI studies using Australian Bureau of Statistics data to be released in late 2011 and 2012. These include census and unit record files of the 2011 Household Expenditure Survey and Survey of Income and Housing which provide substantial data on the housing experiences of Australian households.

7 Wellbeing outcomes of low-income renters: a multi level analysis of area effects

The project aims to provide a multilevel analysis of the wellbeing outcomes of low-income renters living in diverse locations. It combines Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA), Australian Bureau of Statistics, and Australian Tax Office data to isolate the area-based level from household level effects across time. The research helps to inform area-based policies on social mix and affordability.

8 Housing equity withdrawal: uses and risks of alternative options for older Australians

This project will uncover the financial costs and risks of alternative housing equity withdrawal mechanisms and provide recommendations of financial products which can mitigate risks associated with withdrawing housing equity in older age.

9 Understanding decision-making in the not-for-profit housing sector: longitudinal and comparative components

Building on a current [AHURI research project](#), this project will contribute to the understanding of third sector housing organisations (including Indigenous organisations) operating in the current housing policy, funding and regulatory environment; supporting the government commitment for the not-for-profit sector to comprise up to 35 per cent of social housing by 2014. It replicates a methodology utilised in international comparative projects and builds a longitudinal study of this group of organisations in Australia.

10 The edges of home ownership

This project examines the 'churn' on the edges of home ownership to deepen understanding of entry (affordability), sustainability (risk of exit through financial stress) and utility (retirees trading-out for asset-based welfare). The study will be across all age groups with implications for a number of policy areas including home ownership, retirement incomes policy, subsidies to first home owners and Commonwealth Rent Assistance.

11 Understanding and addressing local opposition to affordable housing projects

This project will investigate the underlying causes of local opposition to affordable housing projects in Australia and generate a robust evidence package to underpin more effective ways of minimising this impediment to the supply of affordable housing.

12 Processes for developing affordable and sustainable medium-density housing models for greyfield precincts

This project will develop a new integrative development model for greyfields that can contribute to affordable housing provision and build on outcomes from the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Package. It extends the research of the AHURI Investigative Panel: *Towards a new development model for housing regeneration in greyfield precincts*.

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