

# Media Release

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: 12 December 2011**

## **UDIA welcomes appointment of new Housing Minister**

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) today welcomed the appointment of Robert McClelland as the Minister for Housing.

The creation of a Ministry for Housing within Cabinet is recognition by the Federal Government that we face a serious challenge in delivering affordable housing to all Australians.

Housing affordability is an issue that is the responsibility of all tiers of Government. The elevation of the housing portfolio to Cabinet can help ensure that the Federal Government takes a leadership role in addressing the affordability crisis.

“UDIA aims to deliver affordable housing across Australia and having a Minister for Housing responsible for all Commonwealth housing policies and programs is a step in the right direction”, said UDIA National President Julie Katz.

“In recent times housing appeared to have dropped off the Federal Government’s agenda, and UDIA welcomes its reemergence as a policy priority through the appointment of a standalone Housing Minister”, said Ms Katz.

UDIA looks forward to working with the new Minister and the Government in tackling this critical policy issue.

**For further information or comment, please contact:**

**UDIA National President, Julie Katz - 0413 307 030**