

## Media Release

**For Immediate Release**

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### **NEW REPORT, NEW COUNCIL, SAME CONCERNING CONCLUSIONS**

The National Housing Supply Council's 2011 State of Supply Report paints an alarming picture of the housing supply situation in Australia according to the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA).

The report found that the nation was undersupplied by some 28,200 dwellings for the year and the cumulative shortage is now 186,800 dwellings. Without appropriate action the gap could rise to over 640,000 over the next 20 years.

As concerning as these figures are, they come as no surprise to UDIA members who have firsthand experience of the factors constraining housing supply.

"This is a new report delivered by a newly appointed Council, but unfortunately the same concerning conclusions have been reached", said UDIA National President Julie Katz.

"We are simply not producing enough dwellings for the current and projected future number of households in Australia. It is crucial that governments address the barriers to supply, such as the excessive taxation on the industry and the unresponsive planning system" said Ms Katz.

"Without action from all levels of government to curb this lack of supply, Australia's housing affordability problem will go from bad to worse".

"By not fully realising the underlying demand for housing, Australia is being deprived of significant economic activity and missing out on such benefits as jobs and Federal/State taxes"

While the report paints a grim picture, there are signs that the Federal Government is refocusing its efforts in this area, particularly with the recent appointment of Robert McClelland as the Minister with sole responsibility for housing.

“The State of Supply Report will no doubt alert the Minister to the challenges that await, but we are looking forward to working with him in addressing this country’s significant housing supply shortage”, said Ms Katz.

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