

# RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

## Investigating Housing Reform

**Professor Peter Phibbs from the Urban Research Centre, along with Associate Professor Nicole Gurran from the University of Sydney, is exploring the performance of land use planning systems. This project is funded by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) through a Research Funding Grant.**

'Ensuring an adequate supply of affordable housing for Australia's growing population while maintaining effective planning and allocation of land for other uses such as infrastructure development and food production is a significant concern for State and Federal governments and policy makers', says Professor Phibbs. 'Recent research indicates that efforts towards reforming housing supply planning, zoning requirements, and diversity policies have been diffuse and inconsistent across states and territories. This has hampered efforts to introduce a national land-use planning system to support housing supply. This project will monitor existing planning system performance in relation to housing supply outcomes, in order to inform meaningful changes in state and territory planning laws and practices.'

A panel of experts will come together from universities and public policy organisations in the UK, US New Zealand and Australia to examine current evidence for best-practise in planning regulation, infrastructure charging regimes, and spatial policy to see how these effect housing market outcomes. A reform agenda and framework of ongoing performance monitoring of Australia's planning systems will also be recommended.



In an economic context where every dollar counts, this project will assist private and public investors and policy makers in ensuring Australia's public planning system is as efficient, effective and equitable as possible across all states and territories. This may, in the long term, lead to more affordable housing, securer investments and better food production to both feed and house Australia's ever-increasing population.

**Project Title:** Quantifying planning systems performance and the national reform agenda:  
Investigative Panel

**Funding has been set at:** \$58,724

**Contact Details:** [p.phibbs@uws.edu.au](mailto:p.phibbs@uws.edu.au)

<http://www.uws.edu.au/urban>

**May 2012**