

2A Mugga Way
Red Hill ACT 2603
PO Box 3373 Manuka 2603
T +612 6208 2100
act@architecture.com.au
architecture.com.au

16 March 2018

Mr Ben Ponton
Director-General
Environment Planning and Sustainable
Development Directorate
ACT Government
GPO Box 158
Canberra, ACT, 2601



Australian Institute of Architects

Dear Mr Ponton

Re: Housing Choices Discussion Paper

The ACT Chapter of Australia Institute of Architects welcomes the Housing Choices Discussion Paper as a good starting point to seriously examine the critical need for reform of ACT planning policies. The Discussion Paper's presentation of sound research, the raising of issues facing the ACT and the suggestion of improvements has given the Chapter confidence that planning matters recurrently raised by the Chapter may now be addressed. We believe that the ACT must sustainably meet its inevitable population change and growth, and that sound and visionary planning can achieve this objective.

The paper is well researched and presented in a manner that will be accessible to professional institutions, practitioners and the public alike and as such, should attract vigorous and informed debated. The Institute congratulates the ACT Government on this initiative and we look forward to opportunities to contribute our ideas and expertise at the forthcoming Collaboration Hub. We also look forward to an active involvement in the proposed Demonstration Housing Project. The Chapter has been advocating for such a project for some time and it is encouraging to see that the idea is being adopted as part of the Housing Choices program.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Leeson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial 'P'.

Philip Leeson
ACT Chapter President
Australian Institute of Architects