

Adrian
28-3-98

Council of Social Service of New South Wales

NCOSS

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9 March, 1998

Please return by fax to (02) 9281 1968
by Friday 27 March

Dear Colleague

NCOSS Membership Fee Survey

NCOSS is continuing a review of our membership scale and services.

We would like to find out what membership services are important to NCOSS members. Your feedback is important to us, and provides the best measure of our performance.

This is not a membership renewal, simply a survey to find out what we might do better for our members.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could spend a few minutes completing this survey and return it to us by fax.

Some questions about your organisation:

What is your organisation's total annual income?
(from your most recent audited accounts)

About \$800 pa.

How many staff does your organisation have?

All voluntary

How is your organisation funded?

Government funding

Self generated income

Donations/bequests 100 %

Other

Do you have internet access? *peterh@nsw.com.au*

http://www.nsw.com.au/users/pancom

☒ YES / NO

What do you see as the current major issues for the sector?

- *Development of alternative lifestyle communities.*
- *Low cost self help housing (shared land, mortgage free housing)*
- *Reinstatement of State Environmental Planning Policy-15 permitting Multiple Occupancy in rural areas with Council approval. (SEPP-15)*

Some questions about NCOSS membership:

What benefits do you think NCOSS membership offers your organisation?

We feel supported in general re data and statements on the housing crises

Any other services you would like to see NCOSS offer?

- Ongoing data on the developing housing crises and homelessness.
- Demise of public housing as a "social justice" issue.
- Recognition of low cost self help housing made possible by the former SEPP-15.

Does your organisation hold other sector memberships?

No.

Which of these NCOSS services have you made use of in the past year?

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Conferences & seminars | • <u>Publications</u> | • Forum involvement |
| • NCOSS website | • Telephone advice/info | • <u>NCOSS library</u> |

Any other comments about NCOSS' membership services?

None

Thank you for your assistance.

Not sent 29/3/98

NCOSS Survey. March 1998

Since the introduction of SEPP-15 in 1988 by Bob Carr as Minister for Environment and Planning, Multiple Occupancy (M.O.) has been possible in rural areas of NSW subject to local council approval. We estimate that this policy has enabled some ten thousand people to have been self housed in the North Coast of the State.

This policy was repealed by the previous Government in 199.....

At the last State election the Labor Party made an "election promise" to reinstate SEPP-15 if elected to Government. (See Attachment.)

Despite attaining Government and despite repeated public statements by Minister Knowles that this Policy is to be reinstated, and despite our constant pressure on the Minister to reinstate this Policy, Minister Knowles has failed to do so. No explanation has been offered for not reinstating the Policy!

In 1997 the Legislative Council unanimously supported a motion by Ian Cohen MLC calling on the Government to immediately reinstate the former SEPP-15 Policy!

Minister Knowles has a DUAP Task Force on Affordable Housing headed by Professor Disney (former Chairperson of ACOSS). Our attempts to get support from this Task Force have been unsuccessful.

Local councils have an option to introduce MO provisions in their LEP. The Byron Council is the only Council to have done so. The Lismore City Council (which has some sixty approved MO's in its area), considered introducing ^{an LEP} local provision to enable the continuance of MO in its area, but the proposal was rejected by the Council!

Attachments

- "A" "Background to Multiple Occupancy Communities in NSW"
Pan Community Council
- "B" ALP Election promise to reinstate SEPP-15
- "C" "Multiple Occupancies" Edwin Buivids, 1994
- "D" "Aquarius Still" article in "Timber Living" Magazine, No.8, 1997.

*Prepare sub to NCOSs re the above issues, together
support for reinstatement SEPP-15 as budget saving
action by the Govt. by enabling people to engage in
self help housing who would otherwise be homeless!*