

Words that succeed; policies that fail

Progress on the
National Dialogue on Universal Housing Design

Dr Margaret Ward PSM



Adam Larkum

I'LL BE
THE FIRST TO
TWEET IT

BUT HE'S
NOT WEARING
ANY CLOTHES



National Dialogue on Universal Housing Design (NDUHD, 2010)



National
People with
Disabilities &
Carers Council



Australian
Institute of
Architects



Australian Network
for Universal
Housing Design



Australian
Human Rights
Commission
everyone, everywhere, everyday



Livable Housing Design

- ◉ **Agreement** in 2010
- ◉ Voluntary **national access guideline** for new housing
- ◉ Minimum access in **all new homes by 2020**



National Disability Strategy

2010-2020 (Australian Government, 2011)

- **Policy Direction 3**

Improved provision of accessible and well designed housing.

- **Commitment**

An aspirational target that all new homes will be of agreed universal design



National Dialogue Agreement

(NDUHD, 2010 b)



► Targets

2013 25%

2015 50%

2017 75%

2020 100%



Endorsement

- ▶ COAG
- ▶ Queensland Government (2011)
- ▶ S A Government
- ▶ W A Government
- ▶ Local Councils
- ▶ State of Australian Cities (2011-12)
- ▶ Productivity Commission (2011)
- ▶ NDIS



Adam Larkum

Review

- Commitment to review in 2013 and every two – three years to check on progress (NDUHD, 2010b)



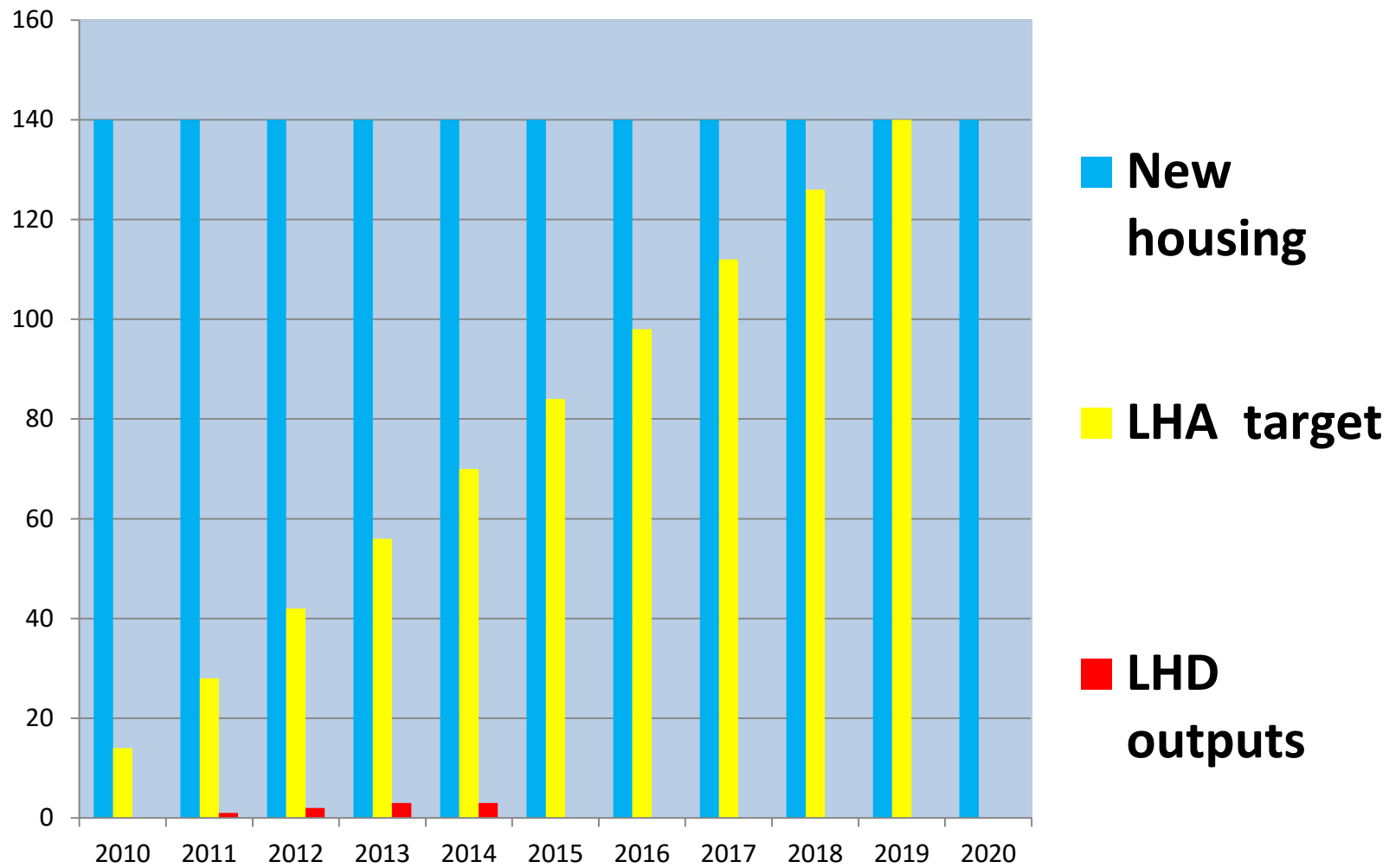
Adam Larkum

\$1million funding 2011-2014

- ▶ Poor results
- ▶ No review

*OK..
We will do the
review!*





(ANUHD & RI Australia, 2014)

	Policy	Figures
QLD	Supports Livable Housing Design Guidelines.	No figures given
NSW	Aim to achieve 50 % of NSW standard	No figures given
VIC	No information given.	No figures given
SA	90% currently meet SA standard.	No figures given
TAS	'Principles' in all new developments.	84
WA	Does not support proposed targets	2,000
ACT	73% to Class C standard [AS4299]	No figures given
NT	"We have been doing it for many years"	No figures given

Survey of Housing Ministers

(ANUHD & RI Australia, 2014)

Livable Housing Australia



In 2016

- 60+ Assessors
- The collection of data is an issue
- the cost of certification is a barrier.
- The PCA is to audit LHA activities to gain insight into adoption.
- Review of guidelines

But just how many?



Standards Australia 2016



- Proposal to review AS4299 was “very well developed and thorough”
- Support from 150 organisations but **rejected** because of “*lack of support from the housing industry*”.



Australian Building Codes Board



- Proposal for Change to the NCC but Proposal **rejected** because they do not have policy direction to support such action.
- Advised to go back to Standards Australia to discuss with the housing industry.



	State	Support	
Minister de Brenni	Queensland	Support PFC in principle.	
Minister Wynne	Victoria	Support PFC in principle.	
Minister Rau	South Australia	Supportive of universal design	
Minister Mischin	WA	No response Minister Simpson-support in principle. Premier Barnett- support in principle	
Minister Stokes	NSW	Letter from Alex O'Mara. Obfuscation	
Minister Gutwein	Tasmania	Waiting on advice from the ABCB.	
Chief Minister Barr	ACT	Supportive of our work, suggests we go to Building Ministers' Forum	
Minister Tollner	NT	No response	

Some voluntary action

- Grocon housing developments.
- Melbourne's apartment guidelines.
- Stockland retirement villages.

Next step

- Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (2016) recommends regulation.
- Building Ministers' Forum
- COAG
- www.anuhd.org



Adam Larkum

*Can words
really become
policy?*



*Watch
this
space...*