TELL ‘EM THEY’RE DREAMIN: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN THE ACT

ABOUT: The second Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis Canberra Conversation Public Lecture will examine the current issues and future of housing affordability in the ACT. Each speaker will make a brief presentation before opening up the conversation to the audience. The event will be facilitated by Professorial Fellow Jon Stanhope AO.

KHALID AHMED will discuss the trends and underlying causes of the affordability problem, and whether there is a case for government policy interventions in the market. The presentation particularly focuses on the affordability issues in the Australian Capital Territory, and asks the question what would be the most effective policy responses available to the government.

BEN PHILLIPS will draw together information from different sources to present analysis of housing costs and affordability outcomes for the various income groups. This will include comparisons with other States and changes over time.

KIRK CONINGHAM will close the presentations by delivering a response to each speaker with his thoughts on housing affordability in the ACT.

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO ATTEND. PLEASE VISIT EVENTBRITE TO CONFIRM YOUR REGISTRATION.

TELL ‘EM THEY’RE DREAMIN: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN THE ACT

KHALID AHMED

BEN PHILLIPS

SPEAKERS

DR KHALID AHMED served in the ACT Public Service for 19 years, with around 10 years as Executive Director of Policy Coordination and Development Division in Treasury. Over that period, he had been involved with the development and implementation of major policy initiatives in the Territory. He has led expenditure reviews and the review of the ACT’s taxation system including the development of the Taxation Reform Plan. Khalid was on the Affordable Housing Taskforce established by the ACT Government, and had the oversight and responsibility for the implementation of a range of initiatives of the Government to improve housing affordability. He was also on the Housing Supply and Affordability Reform Working Party established by the Council of Australian Governments. Khalid now works in the private sector as an economic advisor and is involved in public policy and public sector reform.

BEN PHILLIPS is a Principal Research Fellow at the Institute of Governance and Policy Analysis at the University of Canberra. Ben has over 18 years experience as an economist and researcher in the public, private and university sectors. His main interest is the application of social and economic models to important social and economic policy matters such as income inequality, social exclusion, housing affordability and demographic change and policy development. In his most recent work, Ben managed the distributional impacts on Australian households of the Federal Government’s carbon price package project. The resulting paper influenced public policy and was discussed widely within media, Government and political circles. Ben also published a report on the state of housing affordability with AMP which is a benchmark report for Australia’s major cities and towns on housing affordability.

KIRK CONINGHAM is the Executive Director of the Master Builders Association of the ACT. He has worked in leadership positions with the Australian Federal Police, the Commonwealth Public Service and the Australian Medical Association. Kirk also led Government and Industry Relations for the global Leighton Group before his current role. Kirk has strong connections with the Canberra community and in the construction industry nationally.

CANBERRA.EDU.AU/CENTRES/UCIGPA