FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA RELEASE

Population Policy Launched at HIA National Awards

The Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population, and Communities, the Honorable Tony Burke MP, today launched the Federal Government's sustainable population strategy *Sustainable Australia, Sustainable Communities* at the HIA-CSR National Housing Awards.

HIA Managing Director, Shane Goodwin, said that it was appropriate that today's announcement was delivered at the premier event on Australia's housing calendar, given the crucial focus required on new housing supply in delivering any strategy for the nation's growing population.

“It is pleasing to see the Federal Governement make clear its thinking on a strategy for managing the many complex economic and social issues that will accompany Australia’s future growth and development,” said Mr Goodwin.

“Issues such as housing our growing population, managing congestion within our cities and providing sufficient infrastructure are fundamental to the wellbeing of all Australians and require serious Federal Government commitment and close consultation with state and territory governments,” said Mr Goodwin.

“Hopefully we will also soon see the Government announce outcomes and plans from associated processes such as COAG’s housing supply reform agenda which suitably recognises the importance of a cohesive approach across all governments to addressing the supply of one of life’s essentials, namely housing.”

“From HIA’s perspective, once a population strategy is in place, our role is to ensure that the building industry is able to build a sufficient number of dwellings to house all Australians. The more efficiently we can do this the better it will be for all individuals and for the economy as whole,” added Mr Goodwin.

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