

# Deb Foskey MLA

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## **Affordable housing back on the agenda!**

ACT Greens MLA Deb Foskey welcomed the recommendation in the Assembly's Planning and Environment Committee report on 2004/5 Annual Reports for affordable housing to be incorporated in all new developments. The Committee consists of MLAs Mick Gentleman and Mary Porter (both Labor members) and Zed Seselja (Liberal – who opposed the Committee's recommendation).

"It is great to see the Labor backbench join my call for affordable housing to be built into urban development in the ACT" Dr Foskey said today.

"Requiring a proportion of all development to be affordable is called inclusionary zoning. It's in place in many councils across Australia, and was one of the recommendations of the government's own affordable housing taskforce. It was however rejected twice by the Labor government when it was put to the Assembly by the Greens as a Bill, first by Kerrie Tucker and then, earlier this year, by me."

"Perhaps, now that the idea has been formally supported by MLAs from Labor's left and right, we might get some real progress on housing affordability in the ACT" Dr Foskey said.

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