Position Statement

Australian Network for Universal Housing Design and Rights and Inclusion Australia believe that the homes we build for today should be fit for all of tomorrow’s Australians.

Please support our call to the Australian Government to regulate **minimum access features in the National Construction Code for all new and extensively modified housing**. This should be supported by education and training for the housing industry.

**Why?**

- Current housing designs do not work for many people including older people, people recovering from illness or injury, mothers with prams and people who have mobility difficulties.
- Greater accessibility is cheap and easily achieved—with **three simple features**.
- An increased supply of accessible mainstream housing is critical to the success of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the Aged Care Reforms.
- In 2010, Australian housing industry leaders agreed to provide these three simple features in all new housing by 2020. With a few exceptions, the housing industry has not responded. We anticipate that **less than 5%** of the 2020 target will be met unless these features are regulated.
- Regulating these **three simple features** will allow many more people to stay in their homes, and to visit others—regardless of their age, disability or life circumstances.
- Regulation in the National Construction Code will provide a “level playing field” for the Australian housing industry and cost and production efficiencies for everyone.
- Regulation will lead to more inclusive and sustainable communities now and in the future.

**What are these three simple features?**

1. An **accessible path of travel** from the street or parking area **to and within** the entry level of a dwelling.
2. Doors, corridors and living spaces that allow **ease of access for most people on the entry level**.
3. **A bathroom, shower and toilet that can be used by most people**, with reinforced wall areas for grab-rails at a later date.

**Add your organisation’s logo or your name to call for regulation.** Simply fill out the attached form and email us at anuhd@anuhd.org, or reply@riaustralia.org.

Thank you for your support.
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the attached Position Statement.

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