

## **RELEVANT INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL**

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**FILE:** S112458.002 **DATE:** 24 June 2016  
**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors  
**FROM:** Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer  
**THROUGH:** Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 8.2 – Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship - Affordable Housing Conference 2016 – At Council - 27 June 2016

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That the Lord Mayor and Councillors note the information contained in this memo.

### **Background**

At the meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee on 20 June 2016, further information was sought on two issues associated with the Affordable Housing Conference on 28-29 July 2016, co-convened by Homelessness NSW (HNSW) and the NSW Federation of Housing Associations.

1. *The measures that have been put in place by the conference organisers to encourage active participation by social housing tenants and people that have experienced homelessness in the event*

Katherine McKernan, CEO of HNSW, has provided information on how members of the community will be included in the event, as attendees and active participants.

Free conference registration has been provided to a number of members of the 'Action for Public Housing' tenant group (a group consisting of public housing tenants concerned with the sale of public housing estates for private development).

A discounted rate has been provided for social housing tenants and people experiencing homelessness, which has been promoted widely through service networks. However, this reduced fee can be waived for individuals unable to meet these costs.

Whilst the full conference program is still being finalised, social housing tenants and/or people experiencing homelessness have been invited to speak in the following sessions:

#### Day One – Thursday 28 July 2016

- Delivering high quality management services to everyone (2 social housing tenants-confirmed)
- Social Housing for an Ageing population (2 people experiencing homelessness/social housing tenants invited).

#### Day Two – Friday 29 July 2016

- Affordable Housing and Domestic and Family Violence (1 person experiencing homelessness invited)

- Youth, housing and homelessness (1 person experiencing homelessness invited).

The City proposes to incorporate a requirement for HNSW to report on the outcomes of these proposals in the sponsorship acquittal report – including the level of active participation in the event program by social housing tenants and people who have experienced homelessness.

2. *The City's organisational experience of Homelessness NSW, as the proposed funding recipient*

The City of Sydney works closely with HNSW to monitor trends and issues relating to homelessness, and to advocate for system and policy changes that can improve outcomes for people who are homeless. In 2015, the City worked with HNSW to deliver the Inner City Sydney Registry Week – the largest survey of its kind – to collect information and direction from 516 people experiencing homelessness in the inner city on how their needs can be met.

The organisation is professional and well regarded in the sector.

**Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer**

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Approved

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