

NEWS RELEASE



January 18 2016

Conference to throw spotlight on future housing needs

A conference designed to provide a window into the potential future housing needs of the growing South West region has been announced for Bunbury.

The South West Development Commission has revealed it has organised for a range of high-profile experts, including home building success story Dale Alcock, to speak at the April event.

Other guest presenters lined-up include futurist Gihan Perera, Housing Action Network chief executive Tony Gilmour and Housing Minister Colin Holt, who will open the conference.

Part of the Critical Horizons think tank series, which aims to prepare people to tackle challenges and take up opportunities, the event will explore a variety of topics.

SWDC chief executive officer Don Punch said with the population of the South West increasing it was important to consider diverse and affordable options for housing the region's residents.

"The conference is designed to get people thinking about how we will cater for the needs of local people in the coming years and decades," he said.

"For example, what future housing trends and challenges might we expect, and what innovative housing options are likely to become more popular?"

"What will we need in the way of accommodation for seniors?"

"And what planning needs to be undertaken to support the implementation of desirable housing outcomes?"

The Critical Horizons – Housing the South West in the 21st Century conference will be held in the Cube Theatre at the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre on Friday April 1.

For more information about the event, visit www.criticalhorizons.com.au . Tickets can be purchased from the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre.

Critical Horizons is organised by SWDC and sponsored by Alcoa, Bunbury Mail, LandCorp and Regional Development Australia – South West.

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