

RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Moving Home

Dr Rae Dufty-Jones of the School of Social Sciences is investigating the link between housing and population mobility, both nationally and internationally. This research is funded by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI).

'Australians, and indeed people in other countries, are increasingly mobile which makes how and where we provide housing a significant social and economic issue', says Dr Dufty-Jones. 'Many factors influence where people settle including employment opportunities, affordability and access to public and private infrastructure. The economic, environmental and social sustainability of a community is also related to its permanent and transient populations. It has been shown that lack of mobility opportunities can particularly affect people who live in areas of declining housing prices. While AHURI has supported research into the national relationship between mobility patterns and housing for many years, the Australian results have not yet been synthesised with international findings to determine additional Australian policy-relevant information. I will be exploring these relationships because understanding them can help to devise policy relating to housing issues of managing economic growth, accessibility and concentrations of social disadvantage.'

Policy reviews and assessments as well as literature reviews will be analysed and combined with the outcomes of stakeholder meetings to gain a more global understanding of this issue. Additional factors that affect housing and mobility not previously identified will be determined.



Combining and comparing national and international knowledge of housing and population mobility factors and experiences will inform local housing policies and urban and regional planning. This will help to strengthen the successful management of the needs of an increasingly mobile Australian population within a rapidly changing economy.

Project Title: 'Moving Home': the role of housing policy in responding to and promoting mobility

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