

Multi-Residential Standards Policy



Australian
Institute of
Architects

CONTEXT

Australia is a highly urbanised country and its population is growing dramatically with the large proportion of that growth expected in existing urban centres. The most effective way of housing more people in our cities and regional towns is to plan for greater density within the current urban footprint. This increase in density and population must be accompanied by minimum quality standards that require architects and developers to design and build dense, multi-residential buildings that provide a good quality of living for residents, and suitable public amenity. Both of these things are important in creating sustainable communities.

The architectural profession are experts in delivering good design and are crucial to the delivery of quality multi-residential buildings that provide places with open space, liveability, and equitable public spaces.

THE POLICY

The Australian Institute of Architects endorses the following:

- Increased density by the provision of multi-residential buildings that meet the complex demands of housing a number of people in different dwelling configurations and sizes
- A building and planning framework that encourages multi-residential developments with connections to local amenities and services, health, education, employment and public transport and that delivers community aspirations
- Adaptation and re-use of existing buildings, including under-utilised heritage places for residential use
- Legislated development standards and performance metrics that deliver quality internal and external amenity for medium and high density living
- Design quality guidelines providing advice on how the standards can be achieved
- Mandated use of qualified professionals such as architects in the design of multi-residential buildings
- Design review panels for review by architects with experience in the design of multi-residential buildings, which are part of the assessment process