

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# SCA (WA) Launches 2025 Election Platform, Calling for Strata Commissioner at 2025 Election

**Tuesday 18 February 2025:** Strata Community Association Western Australia (SCA WA) is proud to present it's 2025 Election Platform ahead of the Western Australian General State Election, calling all parties to back the call for a dedicated strata commissioner and legislative reform.

<u>SCA (WA)'s 2025 Election Platform</u> aims to highlight why strata should be a key focus in the upcoming state election and details three priorities it believes should be addressed during the election and beyond.

SCA (WA) is seeking a commitment of \$10 million over the next four years from whoever forms government to establish a new Strata Commissioner's Office and appoint a Strata Commissioner.

The Strata Commissioner's Office should serve as a central body for strata community oversight, regulation, and dispute resolution, providing the essential support and resources that strata owners, residents, managers and service providers critically require.

SCA (WA) General Manager Kerrin Simmonds said that the establishment of a dedicated Strata Commissioner's Office that streamlined everything related to strata would improve strata living and management significantly.

"With 1 in 6 West Australian's already living in an apartment or other strata dwelling a dedicated Strata Commissioners Office would be instrumental in strengthening consumer protections, advancing reforms, and resolving disputes efficiently."

"WA's strata sector still faces challenges in professional development, education, and regulation. While standards have improved, significant reforms are needed to ensure the governing legislation remains effective," she said.

SCA (WA) believes that continuing the reforms initiated by the current government is crucial for strengthening professionalism, enhancing consumer protection, and improving the quality of strata living for Western Australians.

Ms Simmonds also detailed the work SCA (WA) has done over the past two years in relation to the Five-Year Review of the Strata Titles Act 1985.

"SCA (WA) has worked closely with Landgate and key stakeholders to develop a comprehensive submission for the Strata Titles Act 1985 Five-Year Review," she said.

"By committing to the review process and adopting these recommendations, it is our belief the WA Government can enhance trust, transparency, and long-term confidence in the sector, ensuring strata remains a sustainable and desirable option for housing, investment, and community living."



### **SCA's Key Asks**

- SCA (WA) is seeking a commitment of \$10 million\* over the next 4 years to establish a well-funded and adequately resourced **Strata Commissioner's Office**.
- SCA (WA) is seeking a commitment to the timely execution of the current STA Review process, and the implementation of, or significant engagement with, the recommendations put forward in the SCA (WA) submission to the STA Review process.
- SCA (WA) recommends the establishment of a Strata Titles Legislative Reform working group, with ongoing government participation and support.
- SCA (WA) is requesting a comprehensive review of government sustainability initiatives that relate to strata to better resources and target grants and policy in progressive areas

#### **Reasons to Focus on Strata This Election**

- The Strata Sector is a Key Economic Driver
- The Rapid Growth of Strata Living in WA
- Strata Living as a Solution to the Cost of Living Crisis
- Supporting the Growth and Professionalism of the Strata Sector
- Strata's Role in Addressing WA's Pressing Issues
- Getting the Governing Legislation and Regulation Right

### The SCA (WA) Election Platform and all communications materials can be found here.

#### **ENDS**

### Media enquiries:

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### **About SCA (WA)**

Strata Community Association (WA) is the professional body representing the interests of the strata sector in WA, founded in 1989. Providing education, advocacy, and support to strata managers, service providers, owners, and stakeholders within the strata community. A not-for-profit member-based organisation, representing approximately **1,500 individuals** who subsequently represent over **133,000 owned properties** in Western Australia. Membership includes strata community managers, support staff, committee members and suppliers of products and services to the industry. SCA proudly fulfils the dual roles of a professional institute and consumer advocate.

SCA (WA) is a chapter of the Strata Community Association, which represents practitioners throughout Australasia. As the growth of apartment and strata living has intensified over the last decade, the strata management strata services industry has grown in lock step to serve it. Strata managers navigate through a maze of Commonwealth, State and



Territory legislation and regulation ranging from actual strata specific legislation, regulation, workplace, health and safety issues and building codes as well as measures applicable to the management of body corporate funds.