

Mr. Richard Katter

Head, Economics, Strategy & Research, THG

BIOGRAPHY

Richard Katter has nine years experience working as an economist in regional and metropolitan Australia and Europe. Richard, prides himself on understanding numbers and turning them into something meaningful - he takes demographic and industry information and creates commercial intelligence.

Richard works for THG who are foundation members of Partners for Livable Communities Australia. Partners for Livable Communities are a not for profit organisation with over 30 years experience in empowering communities to increase their livability. Richard is currently working on the development of PLC's livability index, which will assist communities to benchmark their livability improvements.

Richard is on the Green Building Council of Australia's Green Star Communities Industry Advisory Committee for Liveability. He is also currently completing a PhD through the QUT School of Design. The topic of Richard's PhD is the establishment of a new model of housing for South East Queensland under a triple bottom line of sustainability.

ABSTRACT

What is Liveability and Why is it important

Australia is the most urbanised continent in the world and is also subject to very high population growth rates, the sixth highest in the developed world. High population growth coupled with our excessive urbanisation has meant that our cities are currently at near full capacity in terms of current infrastructure. Australia's strong population growth is set to continue and managing this growth, sustainably, is a critical issue for all Australians.

The obvious method for addressing the capacity constraints within our major metropolitan centres and sustaining population growth into the future is through increased regionalisation.

Regionalisation cannot be achieved through initiatives such as one off cash incentives; regionalisation can only truly be achieved through an increase in the liveability of these regions. This presentation will look to flesh out what liveability truly is, illustrating why it is important and how it may be achieved.