

Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Premier



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MAKING IT EASIER TO BUILD A GRANNY FLAT

As part of the Allan Labor Government's bold planning reforms, it will soon be easier for Victorians to build a small second home on their property – giving families a space to grow together and boosting housing supply.

From next month, families will no longer require a planning permit to build a small second home on their property.

Too often, families want to keep their older and younger generations closer together – but are priced out of established areas around the state.

This change will make it easier for families to build a small second home on their own lot – near jobs, public transport, education and healthcare services, as well as existing social connections.

As part of the Labor Government's recent *Housing Statement*, small second homes under 60 square metres, also known as granny flats, will no longer require a planning permit on properties 300 square metres or larger where there are no flooding or environmental overlays – lifting the burden of getting planning approval for Victorians.

There will be no restrictions on how a small second home can be used – they can be used flexibly, whether it's keeping family members closer, providing temporary housing or being rented out for additional income.

Small second homes will still require a building permit, will need to meet ResCode (residential design code) setback and siting requirements – and cannot be subdivided or separately sold off from the main home.

These reforms will be implemented through changes to the planning and building systems, with a comprehensive information pack available for applicants and assessors.

Whether Victorians are buying their first place, upsizing or downsizing as life changes, renting or calling social housing their home – the landmark *Housing Statement* is about ensuring everyone has a place to call home.

Quote attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

"We know for many Victorians the burden of planning approvals has put building a small second home in the too hard basket – we're making it easier, so families can grow together and have a place to care for loved ones."

Quote attributable to Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkenny

"Small second homes are an important part of our bold planning reforms – as we get on with building 800,000 new homes in Victoria over the next decade – ensuring Victorians can live where they want to live and close to family."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Metropolitan Region Sheena Watt

"We're making it easier to build a second home for families living in popular established suburbs like Brunswick, ensuring younger or older generations have the choice to stay close to where they grew up."