

# Media Release

**The Hon Harriet Shing MP**  
Minister for Housing  
Minister for Water  
Minister for Equality



Friday, 19 January 2024

## MORE HOMES AND MENTAL HEALTHCARE FOR REGIONAL VICTORIANS

More Victorians living with mental health challenges in north-eastern Victoria will have the security and stability of a home and much-needed support services thanks to a new Allan Labor Government-supported development in Mooroopna.

Minister for Housing Harriet Shing visited a recently completed \$10 million housing development for people living with mental health concerns in Mooroopna. The 36-home development is a partnership between the Labor Government, Haven Foundation and Mind Australia.

The homes will be allocated to Victorians in need, including applicants on the Victorian Housing Register who have significant mental health and wellbeing concerns – providing long-term accommodation, care and support services.

The development has been designed to create a village atmosphere with communal facilities where residents can come together and private dwellings where people can create a home.

The first stage of the development, comprising 16 homes, was completed in 2021, and the second stage, comprising 20 homes, was completed in recent weeks – with tenants now moving into the new homes. The prefabricated homes were built by local builder, Neatline Homes, a family-run business based in Shepparton creating local jobs.

It's all part of the Labor Government's massive investment to meet the high demand for social and affordable housing options across Victoria and get more people into safe and secure homes.

Since the start of the Big Housing Build in November 2020, more than \$1 billion has been invested in projects in regional Victoria, with 3,000 homes either complete or under construction.

In regional Victoria at least \$1.25 billion is being invested to ensure the benefits of the Big Housing Build are spread right across the state. Large-scale developments planned for regional Victoria include 180 homes being delivered in Ballarat, and 120 dwellings in Bendigo.

### Quote attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing

*"We know there's demand for social and affordable housing in regional Victoria and that's why we're getting on with the job and delivering these new homes. Our unprecedented investment in housing will help future generations to live a more stable life, while also creating thousands of jobs right across the state."*

### Quote attributable to Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt

*"We know how important a safe, welcoming home and local community can be for people living with mental health challenges - that's why this new development in Mooroopna is such an important addition to the region."*

**Quotes attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes**

*"This is a much-needed housing development for the people of Mooroopna and Shepparton. Everyone deserves the safety and sense of belonging a home can provide, particularly homes like these."*

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