

Media Release

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



Thursday, 29 February 2024

NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES HELPING MORE VICTORIAN RENTERS

The Labor Government is building more affordable homes for more Victorian renters, with the opening of another newly completed development at Elman Road in Cheltenham.

Minister for Housing Harriet Shing today visited the \$19.9 million affordable housing site, one of six delivered so far as part of the Affordable Housing Rental Scheme.

The scheme gives renters security through fixed-term rental agreements of up to three years with the option to extend – protecting eligible Victorians from bias during the application process and housing uncertainty.

The Labor Government’s scheme provides housing for essential workers including healthcare, disability and casual workers – and ensures more people can access an affordable rental within their community, close to shops, transport and employment.

The 29 one-, two- and three-bedroom homes are modern, energy efficient and backed by Government ownership.

All homes meet a minimum 6-star NatHERS energy rating, meaning they are cheaper to heat and cool.

The Government has delivered more than 300 affordable housing dwellings across six sites including Kensington, Ashburton, Ascot Vale, Blackburn, Cheltenham and Heidelberg.

The Affordable Housing Rental Scheme is part of the Labor Government’s Big Housing Build which once complete, will deliver more than 12,000 new homes.

The Labor Government has so far invested \$78 million into Cheltenham under the Big Housing Build and other programs to deliver 166 new homes.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing

“We are proud to continue delivering more affordable homes for more renters as part of this scheme - which is delivering positive outcomes for renters across the state.”

“Rental security is more important than ever – which is why we are keeping these homes affordable for a minimum of three years - giving tenants peace of mind.”

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan Region Ryan Batchelor

“We’re helping more Victorians access safe, secure and affordable housing close to shops, transport and services.”