

# Media Release

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



Friday, 1 March 2024

## NEW HOMES FOR PEOPLE WITH COMPLEX MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

More people in Melbourne's south-east with complex mental health and wellbeing concerns will have access to safe and secure housing thanks to funding from the Labor Government.

Minister for Housing Harriet Shing today visited a newly completed housing development in Pakenham that provides accommodation to people living with mental health conditions who need a home.

The development – which has 16 one-bedroom, self-contained units – is the result of a partnership between Homes Victoria, Haven Foundation and Mind Australia. Homes Victoria has committed more than \$2.8 million towards the project.

The homes will be allocated to people on the Victorian Housing Register living with significant and complex mental health concerns, including those who are homeless or escaping family violence.

The development has been designed to create a sense of community, as well as providing on-site overnight facilities for qualified and experienced around-the-clock support staff.

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

In Shire of Cardinia, more than \$30 million has been invested under the Big Housing Build and other social housing programs to create 84 new homes.

Through the Big Housing Build, and commitments in the Housing Statement and Regional Housing Fund the Labor Government is transforming Victoria's housing landscape.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing

*"We're determined to continue our multi-billion dollar investment to build more Victorians homes they can be proud of, while also providing them with the support, opportunities and connection they deserve, particularly as our population grows."*

*"Every new home completed through our \$6.3 billion investment changes the lives of Victorians for the better, improves our communities and creates tens of thousands of jobs."*

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

*"A key recommendation from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health system highlighted the need to provide more safe and stable housing for people living with mental health challenges – this is an important step in achieving this."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Pakenham Emma Vulin

*"This investment in safe and secure housing will have an immediate impact on the lives, mental health and wellbeing of our community in Pakenham District."*

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