## Media Release

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



Tuesday, 4 June 2024

## **NEW HOMES OFFER HAVEN TO THOSE IN NEED**

More people in regional Victoria will find sanctuary in safe and secure homes, thanks to a new housing development delivered by the Allan Labor Government.

Member for Ripon Martha Haylett today visited the brand-new homes in Ararat, which will support more vulnerable people on the Victorian Housing register living in regional Victoria.

The \$1.8 million development has been delivered in partnership with Homes Victoria and Haven Home Safe and comprises one two-bedroom and three three-bedroom homes.

Homes Victoria committed \$1.4 million to the project through the Big Housing Build, Regional Round, with the new homes featuring electric amenities, rainwater tanks, built in garages and reverse cycle air-conditioning.

The new homes are located close to the town centre and community services, giving residents easy access to schools, jobs and services, as well as public transport including bus services and trains.

Haven Home Safe, a leading community and affordable housing provider, will provide property and tenancy management to the Ararat development, ensuring residents have access to support programs and services needed for them to thrive in their new homes.

An additional five two-bedroom homes will be completed on a nearby Ararat site in late 2024.

The Labor Government is delivering more homes across regional Victoria under the landmark \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build, with at least \$1.25 billion invested to build homes specifically for the regions. More than 400 new homes will be delivered across the Ballarat region under the Big Housing Build and other housing programs.

In addition to this, the \$1 billion Regional Housing Fund will deliver at least 1,300 additional new homes across regional Victoria.

Since the Big Housing Build began in November 2020, more than 9,400 homes have been completed or are underway. The Labor Government will deliver more than 12,000 new homes and create more than 40,000 jobs through the Big Housing Build.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing**

"These four homes are the first of many properties set to be delivered in the Ararat region that directly support people experiencing or at risk of homelessness."

"We're taking steps to address the urgent need for more housing in rural and regional Victoria and look forward to welcoming the new residents over the coming months."

## **Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett**

"These safe, secure homes will mean the world to residents moving in. They will save lives and change lives for Ararat families for years to come."

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