

Media Release

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



Friday, 8 August 2024

MORE HOMES FOR WOMEN AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

The Labor Government is more than doubling the homes at Harvest Square in Brunswick West, with work nearly complete on 198 new homes to replace 81 old walk-ups that will be dedicated for women on the Victorian Housing Register.

Minister for Housing Harriet Shing today visited the site to tour a completed apartment and see the construction work and renders of the new homes which will be a mix of social and market rentals.

The Labor Government is investing \$86 million to replace 81 old, outdated walk-up public housing homes with 198 brand new, modern and accessible homes – with 119 of the homes dedicated for social housing, a nearly 50 per cent increase in housing at the site.

Harvest Square, previously called Gronn Place, is close to Melville Road trams that connect straight into Melbourne CBD. Brunswick North West Primary School, Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, retail, employment opportunities and community facilities are minutes away, helping residents access the services they need.

Featuring generous publicly accessible open spaces, the project will deliver well designed, energy efficient, accessible and affordable homes for the local area.

To grow the supply of housing for Victorians, the Labor Government is working in partnership Homes Victoria, Women's Housing Limited and AVJennings to deliver the new homes. Women's Housing Limited are a specialist housing provider that advocate for the needs of single women and children.

We know that the fastest growing group of people at risk of or experiencing homelessness is single women over the age of 55, which is why we are building homes targeted at women and children. Women's Housing Limited will provide specialist support and wraparound services for residents on the site.

The Labor Government's landmark \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build is delivering more than 12,000 new homes right across Victoria – with the homes designed to provide specialist support and wraparound services for some of our most vulnerable community members.

The Big Housing Build already has more than 9,600 homes underway or complete, with more than 4,400 Victorians moving into their brand new homes.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing

"Women are the fastest growing group of people at risk of homelessness – and we're setting out to change that by delivering brand new homes that are designed for women and include the wraparound support they need to maintain secure, stable housing."

"Our \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build will deliver thousands of bright, beautiful, modern new homes in great places, with access to the services and support that people need."

Quote attributable to Member for Pascoe Vale Anthony Cianflone

"These new homes are close to services, shops and education, and they'll create a wonderful community that residents will enjoy for generations to come."

Media contact: Michaela Weston 0403 483 023 | michaela.weston@minstaff.vic.gov.au