

# Media Release

**The Hon Marlene Kairouz MP**  
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming  
and Liquor Regulation  
Minister for Local Government



Getting Things Done.  
Making Things Fair.

Monday, 19 March, 2018

## MORE HOMES FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE VICTIMS

The Andrews Labor Government has delivered another 20 affordable homes in Melbourne's inner-west for women and children escaping family violence.

Minister for Consumer Affairs Marlene Kairouz joined Member for Williamstown Wade Noonan to officially open the new units, which will provide a safe haven for family violence victims and women over 55 who have had trouble finding a home.

The project saw seven outdated units in Newport demolished and replaced by nine one-bedroom and 11 two-bedroom homes.

The Labor Government provided a \$5.6 million grant from the Victorian Property Fund (VPF) to Women's Housing Limited to build the units.

Tenants for the new development will come from the public housing waiting list. To make them affordable, rent will be set at a maximum of 75 per cent of market price, or 30 per cent of a household's income.

The units are located close to health and community services, public transport, shops and schools, and have been designed to meet at least a 6-star energy efficiency rating. This includes features to reduce energy and water consumption, helping to keep utility bills low.

The VPF invests in affordable accommodation and is used to finance community-led property projects across Victoria. The fund is maintained by licensing fees and fines paid by estate agents and conveyancers.

The project is set to welcome residents in the coming weeks.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Consumer Affairs Marlene Kairouz

*"Women and children escaping family violence often face the immediate challenge of finding a new home."*

*"That's why we have stepped in to fund these units that are safe, secure and that will help rebuild lives."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Williamstown Wade Noonan

*"These units are close to services and job opportunities, so that the families who move in will feel welcome and connected to our community."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Western Metropolitan Cesar Melhem

*"There is high demand for affordable housing in Melbourne's west, and through projects like this, we are tackling this issue head on."*

### Quote attributable to Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Natalie Hutchins

*"This is part of our record \$1.9 billion investment to stop the scourge of family violence and keep women and children free from violence."*

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