

# Media Release

Monday June 18, 2018

**HOUSING  
CHOICES  
AUSTRALIA**



## 24 new homes for low income and vulnerable people in Dandenong and Newport.

*Michael Sinden, Housing Choices Australia*

Housing Choices Australia is building 24 new homes for low income and vulnerable people in Dandenong and Newport after being awarded nearly \$5 million from the Victorian Property Fund (VPF).

Minister for Consumer Affairs Marlene Kairouz today toured a site in Dandenong where the Labor Government is partnering with Housing Choices Australia to build 19 new dwellings.

Housing Choices Board Member Fabienne Michaux was joined by Minister Kairouz, as she announced the \$4.9 million contribution from the VPF. The grant will provide much-needed additional housing options for vulnerable Victorians.

The Victorian Property Fund is administered by Consumer Affairs Victoria, with funds from license fees paid by estate agents and conveyancers and interest paid on their trust accounts and income from other investments. The VPF distributes grants to support a range of property-related programs, including housing assistance for vulnerable Victorians.

Housing Choices is using its grant to rebuild and expand vital housing options at two owned properties; one in Hemmings Street, Dandenong and the other in Oxford Street, Newport.

Minister Kairouz said, "Affordable housing projects give vulnerable Victorians the security they need to thrive. We're investing in more of these dwellings, so that people going through hard times can rebuild their lives."

The Hemmings Street, Dandenong property will be transformed into a five-story, architect-designed apartment building (architect illustration below left), increasing the accommodation from 7 run-down flats, to 19 apartments, located close to shops, schools and public transport. The Oxford Street, Newport property will see the construction of five new architect-designed townhouses in a leafy residential street in family-friendly Newport (architect illustration below). Construction will start late 2018 and be ready for tenants in mid-2019.



Housing Choices Managing Director Michael Lennon commended Minister Kairouz and the Victorian Property Fund for their commitment to supporting housing initiatives for Victorians in need and for their confidence in Housing Choices as the developer and manager of high quality, affordable housing.

Mr. Lennon said "We have already worked closely with all the people who resided at our two properties, who have been actively and professionally supported by our experienced and compassionate Housing Services Team to find the right accommodation while this building program takes place. All Dandenong tenants will be afforded the opportunity to return to the newly built dwellings once they're finished if they wish to."



### The official addresses of both sites:

6 Hemmings Street, Dandenong VIC 3175  
43 Oxford Street, Newport VIC 3015

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