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Work has started on 11 social housing villas

Work has started on building 11 community housing villas at 169 William Street in Devonport, close to the Fourways shopping precinct.

The Housing Choices project was partially-funded by the State Government.

It involves constructing two buildings with 11 apartments and commercial space at ground level.

Once built the social housing complex will have one-bedroom villas with an ensuite, kitchen and living area for rent.

All the apartments have a north-facing courtyard.



Housing Development: Work is underway on an 11 apartment social housing project in William Street in Devonport. Picture: Libby Bingham.

The housing development is next to the Centrelink and Medicare offices.

Housing Choices state manager Kim Bomford said the not-for-profit affordable housing provider as the owner and manager of the site was able to deliver the new homes through a partnership with the State Government under one of the Community Grant Funding rounds.

Housing Choices purchased the site from Simon Want of Enrich Ventures, the developer that's also behind the Devonport Showground housing project.

"Mr Want worked on the project's design, and our building partner for the site is Oliver Kelly," Ms Bomford said.

"It's providing community housing that's similar to all of our developments targeted at priority applicants on the Tasmanian social housing waitlist.

Ms Bomford said there was not a lot of one-bedroom developments going on at the moment to suit the general cohort of tenants Housing Choices was looking to target for the William Street apartment-style complex.



NEW APARTMENTS: This artist's impression shows the four second storey apartments planned for an 11 unit complex in Devonport's William Street. Picture: contributed.

The targeted tenants ranged from single older adults or single people getting locked out of the existing private rental market.

She said it could also suit people who might have mobility or disability issues.

Ms Bomford said it was an excellent location for the social housing project in a flat area with easy access to shops and services.

The apartments were expected to be finished by the middle of the year or a bit later.

"By mid-August to September, we would be looking to place tenants," Ms Bomford said.

"We're already looking at people on the social housing waitlist so that there is very little time difference between the handover of a new development and when tenants are moving in and making themselves at home."

Mr Want said it was a great project delivering 11 new community housing homes.

"We bought the site a couple of years ago off a lovely old man who had lived in it his whole life and could not sell it because he could not get the right price for it, and we were happy to pay that price," he said.

He said after working with various housing providers and looking at a private rental option, the decision was to build specialist accommodation through a housing partner.