# **Media Release**

The Hon Harriet Shing MP Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop

Minister for Housing and Building
Minister for Development Victoria and Precincts



Wednesday, 29 January 2025

## **DELIVERING MORE SOCIAL HOMES IN BENDIGO**

Residents will soon be welcomed to Golden Square in Bendigo following the completion of 35 new homes.

The \$16.6 million Allan Labor Government project has been delivered in partnership with Wintringham Housing, a not-for-profit housing association focused on providing social housing for those over 50 years of age.

The site has been designed with residents' livability needs at the forefront, with each unit featuring a private outdoor space and wheelchair accessibility throughout all the homes, and across the entire development.

The newest households to Golden Square are expected to move in from February 2025 and will soon enjoy close proximity to key amenities such as public transport, local shops, allied health services, and parks including Backhaus Oval Reserve, and Sparrowhawk Gully Bushland Reserve.

The prime Golden Square location was previously home to a local motel, and now proudly offers safe, secure and modern housing on site.

The development will achieve an average Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) rating of 7-stars, ensuring energy efficiency and comfort within all homes.

In the City of Greater Bendigo alone, more than \$155 million has been invested through the Labor Government's Big Housing Build and other social housing programs to build more than 370 new social and affordable homes.

More than 10,100 homes are underway or complete right across the state as part of the Government's \$6.3 billion investment into social housing, with nearly 5,500 households moving in or moved into brand new homes.

Across regional Victoria, the Big Housing Build and Regional Housing Fund have seen more than 1,800 new homes already completed. Right now, a further 1,680 are underway with thousands more to come.

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

"More homes mean more opportunity, particularly for people over 50 years of age who can be vulnerable to homelessness and poverty. This development in Bendigo will give residents access to secure, modern, and energy efficient homes that are close to transport and services."

#### Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"Our record investment in social and affordable housing is providing homes for locals who need them while also creating thousands of local jobs."

#### **Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards**

"We're providing Victorians with comfortable and energy-efficient homes, and these single units are a great example of what is possible for regional Victorians in need."

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