

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP

Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop

Minister for Housing and Building

Minister for Development Victoria and Precincts



Sunday, 16 March 2025

HUNDREDS MORE SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOMES IN THE RIGHT PLACES

The Allan Labor Government has approved more than 300 homes across multiple sites in Melbourne and regional Victoria, providing more access to social and affordable housing for those who need it most.

Minister for Housing and Building Harriet Shing was in Heidelberg West today where the Labor Government has approved 104 social and affordable homes for stage 1 of Bell-Bardia – a jointly funded development through the Big Housing Build and Australian Government's Social Housing Accelerator Program.

Bell-Bardia will provide modern and energy efficient homes, close to schools, public transport, community services, shopping centres, and the Austin Hospital.

In Brunswick East, the Minister for Planning recently fast tracked 109 more homes with 25 per cent affordable housing at 251-265 Lygon Street and 1A Pitt Street, through the Government's Development Facilitation Program (DFP), which streamlines approvals for projects that boost the economy, create jobs and deliver more homes.

It follows a recent approval in nearby Brunswick for a seven-storey development on Wilkinson Street, that will provide 39 new homes with 85 per cent social and affordable housing.

Both developments are in areas well-serviced by public transport and within walking distance of schools, parks, shops and cafes.

Through the Labor Government's \$6.3 billion Big Housing Build and Regional Housing Fund, 13,300 homes are being delivered across Victoria with more than 10,100 homes already complete or underway.

This includes 62 social homes approved by the Government for development on McDowall Street, Mitcham, within walking distance to the Mitcham Railway Station, Mitcham Shopping Centre, schools and other essential services.

The Government continues to deliver more homes for rural and regional Victorians, approving 24 new one and two-bedroom social homes in a four-storey building in 119 Albert Street in Ballarat Central, within walking distance to essential healthcare services, shops, transport, and green space.

Quote attributable to Minister for Housing and Building Harriet Shing

"Changes we introduced through the Housing Statement are making a big difference - Victoria is building and approving more homes than any other state, and our record investment in social and affordable housing is providing more homes for Victorians who need them."

Quote attributable to Member for Ivanhoe Anthony Carbines

"We're making housing more affordable for Victorian families, delivering 104 quality social and affordable homes close to jobs, transport and services in Heidelberg West."

Quote attributable to Member for Jagajaga Kate Thwaites

"For many years, Bell Bardia Estate has been an important part of the 3081 community. That's why the Federal Government is investing \$27.5 million, alongside the State Government, to revitalise the estate by replacing aging homes."

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