Estimates Focus On Department of Local Government and Housing

Minister for Housing Rob Knight is detailing the Territory Government’s $390.3 million housing commitment and Local Government reform before the Estimates Committee this evening.

Mr Knight said the Territory Government’s significant Local Government reform, including the creation of the eight new shires was on the agenda.

“Local Government reform is leading to better delivery of services and the new job and economic opportunities,” Mr Knight said.

“The estimates process has provided the CLP and independents the opportunity to learn more about important projects which will ensure affordable housing is available for Territorians, and Indigenous housing in the bush and urban public housing is improved.

“Budget 09 delivers a 92% increase in our housing budget which includes $23.4 million invested in more public housing with senior’s accommodation to be built at Bellamack, and upgrade work taking place at existing dwellings across the NT.

“The Henderson Government is committed to establishing an Affordable Rental Company to help meet the need for quality, affordable rental properties for low to middle income Territorians.

“Work on the new Parap Gateway development is also set to begin, with the redevelopment of the Wirrina flats and public housing on Parap Road.

“The $672 million SIHIP program has commenced in Tennant Creek, Tiwi Islands and on Groote. This Budget will deliver jobs in communities, around 100 new houses and refurbish more than 700 existing homes.
“I thank the committee for the opportunity to detail how important work is being rolled out across the Territory,” Mr Knight said.

*Media contact: Katie Woolf 0420 972 505*