More new homes for Indigenous Territorians

New housing construction and upgrade works is full steam ahead in remote Territory communities with 67 new homes built and 344 rebuilds and refurbishments completed.

Minister for Public and Affordable Housing, Chris Burns, said the Territory is on track to meet its targets under the Remote Indigenous Housing National Partnership Agreement (NPA).

“The Territory is on track to meet its targets of 750 new homes, 230 rebuild and 2,500 refurbishments over the five year Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP),” Dr Burns said.

“In the 27 years of the CLP Government remote housing was ignored in the Territory, and that’s why we are working to deliver this vital project.

“There are now 67 new homes built and another 53 are under construction under SIHIP. Almost 350 refurbishments and rebuilds have been completed with another 78 underway.

“We are committed to improving the lives of Indigenous Territorians by delivering more homes to overcome the massive backlogs in remote housing.

“We are providing real training and job opportunities for Indigenous Territorians - over 35 per cent of the SIHIP workforce is Indigenous.

“SIHIP has faced challenges and we are working to ensure it continues to improve as it is the most significant Indigenous housing program in the history of the Territory.

“Given we face an imminent Federal election, the CLP and Tony Abbott must say how they intend to deliver an Indigenous housing program.

“At the moment, the only thing we know is that the CLP intends to scrap SIHIP,” Dr Burns said.

SIHIP is part of the $1.7 billion ten year Remote Indigenous Housing NPA.

The locations of 67 new houses are: Tiwi Islands – 19, Wadeye – 17, Maningrida – 11, Alice Springs Town Camps – 8, Groote Eylandt – 6, Gunbalanya – 6

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