Housing Ministerial Conferences

Housing Ministers will meet in Melbourne over the next two days to work on a range of national programs.

Minister for Public and Affordable Housing, Chris Burns, said Housing Ministers will go over a range of important issues such as affordability, supply and remote indigenous housing.

“There is a huge amount of work underway across the Territory to deliver more housing to meet the diverse needs of Territorians,” Dr Burns said.

“Tomorrow Minister for Children and Families Kon Vatskalis and I will meet our state and federal counterparts with a strong focus on addressing homelessness, and on Friday Housing Ministers will meet.

“There is a large construction program currently underway in the Territory to deliver more housing, with the $60 million housing stimulus investment by the Australian Government.

“We are also increasing public housing stock with a $49 million investment, delivering 150 new houses, over the next three years.

“This will include four new seniors villages at Bellamack, Larapinta, Johnston and Malak.

“There is affordable and supported housing projects being delivered including the 150 place Alice Springs Accommodation Park, 28 units in Alice Springs and 18 units in Darwin for transitional accommodation and 20 units at St Vincent de Paul in Darwin.

“More crisis and homelessness housing is also being delivered with the new Catherine Booth House recently re-opened and more accommodation near completion.

“We are making significant improvements to remote Indigenous housing and are on track to meet the 2010 target of 150 new homes and 1000 refurbishments and rebuilds.

“Work is also underway to start the Territory’s own Affordable Housing Rental Company that will provide properties below market rent.

“Although there are still many challenges ahead delivering more housing, we are making some very positive steps forward.”

Media contact: Nicole Manison 0448 693 279