Minister for Housing Matt Conlan today announced the Territory Housing complex know as ‘John Gorey Apartments’ in Elliott Street, Alice Springs, is undergoing major renewal as part of the Territory Government’s Real Housing for Growth plan.

“This Government is finding solutions to meet the town’s housing requirements by bridging the gap for residents who are struggling to find suitable housing,” Mr Conlan said.

“These apartments have had a chequered history of anti-social behaviour but that’s now in the past with the renewal intending to provide a much needed ‘boost’ to accommodation stock in the town when completed.”

Works are expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2014:

- 10 properties (4 x single-storey duplex dwellings and 6 x townhouses), will be made available for eligible purchasers under the Territory’s affordable Home-buyer initiative.
- 10 townhouses will be rented to workers for 6 – 12 months, following that, they will also be offered for sale to eligible purchasers.
- An Expression of Interest will also be released seeking proposals from non-government and/or private providers to purchase, or lease, 10 single-storey duplexes at the site for specific use as accommodation for seniors.

“The funds raised from the sale of properties at this site will be used to support future Territory Housing projects,” Mr Conlan said.

“All of the dwellings are currently vacant and previous tenants have been relocated to new Territory Housing homes, where required.

“Arrangements have also been put in place under the ‘Sentenced to a Job’ initiative, for prisoners under the supervision of the Department of Correctional Services to undertake some of the preparation work at this site.

“Works undertaken will include landscaping, pressure cleaning, repairs to fences, pavers and minor external fixtures, painting and rubbish removal. Local contractors will also be engaged to undertake works on the properties.

“Work has commenced at the site with the intention that the first 10 units planned will be available for sale in the first quarter of 2014.” Mr Conlan said.

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