ADAM GILES MLA | CHIEF MINISTER
MATT CONLAN MLA | MINISTER FOR HOUSING

ELLIOOT STREET WORKS PROGRESSING QUICKLY

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The redevelopment of the John Gorey Apartments in Elliott Street, Alice Springs is progressing fast and has been a hive of activity since work began on the public housing complex in late October.

"Over the past few weeks all 30 units have been prepared and made ready for refurbishment works to commence," Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

"So far, at its busiest, Elliott Street has had up to 56 workers onsite and the apartments are on track to be completed in early 2014 delivering a much needed boost to affordable housing stock in Alice Springs, which is a key priority of the Country Liberals Government.

"In a win win for the town, a number of local maintenance contractors have been hired to help deliver the project including; CKS electrical, Coolock Building Contractors, Quality Plumbing and Building Contractors, Central Building Certifiers and Brian Blakeman Surveyors.

"These contractors have also sub-contracted other local Alice Springs businesses injecting more money into the local economy. Local architect, Susan Dugdale, has also been engaged to design a concept for the six end walls of the townhouses while kitchens, built-in wardrobes and roof flashings have been manufactured locally off-site.

"I'm also delighted to report that thanks to this project one of the prisoners working on the site under the Country Liberals ‘Sentenced to a Job’ initiative has secured a job with local contractor, Quality Plumbing and Building Contractors, on his release from prison.

"The local Indigenous man is a part of a group prisoners who have demonstrated outstanding work ethic while completing the clean-up of the site and are continuing other work including painting of fences, repairing clothes lines and letter boxes, fixing paving and landscaping two of the townhouse garden areas.

"This great success story is a sign the policies of the Country Liberals Government are making a real difference in our community.”

Minister for Housing Matt Conlan said the Elliott Street project will see at least 10 apartments made available for eligible purchasers under the Territory Government’s Real Housing for Growth home-buyer initiative.

"Under our Real Housing for Growth plan, the Country Liberals Government is busting down the barriers and helping Territorians buy their own home,” Mr Conlan said.

A further 10 apartments will be rented to key workers below market rate while the remaining 10 units will be set aside for accommodation for seniors.

Media Contact:
Danielle Parry 0413 081 801