Discounted rental properties snapped up in Karama

17 December 2014

The roll out of the Territory Government’s head-leasing scheme in Darwin has been a huge success with the first batch of 50 discounted rental apartments already fully tenanted.

“The Giles Government understands housing affordability is a big concern facing Territorians which is why are taking action on this issue through our head-leasing scheme,” said Housing Minister Matt Conlan.

“I am pleased to announce that all 50 apartments in Karama are now fully tenanted with some families already moved into their new homes.”

Under the Real Housing for Growth head-leasing scheme, the brand new apartments are being rented at 30 per cent below market rates to eligible key workers like nurses, teachers, apprentices, hospitality staff and young families.

“This means a one bedroom unit is being rented to eligible tenants at $315 per week and a two bedroom, two bathroom unit ranges from $371-$392 per week,” said Mr Conlan.

“For the two bedroom properties this represents a significant saving of $159-$168 a week, which is money that can go into saving up to buy a home.

“High rents are a legacy left behind by the former Labor Government’s failure to plan properly for the Territory’s future growth.

“The head-leasing scheme is part of the Giles Government’s $6.7 million Real Housing for Growth initiative, which is increasing the supply of affordable housing and ensuring key workers can continue to live here and contribute to our plans to develop North Australia.”

Annisa McCormick is one of the successful applicants of the Karama apartments and has recently moved in with her three children.

“This has been a fantastic initiative by the NT Government as cost of living in Darwin is exorbitant but with the subsidised rent it has reduced my costs down to a manageable level,” said Ms McCormick.
“The complex is situated opposite the Karama shopping village so is very convenient and the complex itself is extremely safe and secure. My children vary from special needs to high school so having access immediately to both Vanderlin Drive and McMillan’s Road is convenient whether it’s a trip to Casuarina or Leanyer Water Park or dropping off the children to their respective schools on my way to work in Darwin City.

“We are really enjoying our new home and together with the lower rent it leaves more money for the important things in life…each other.”

Through Real Housing for Growth, the Territory Government is on target to deliver the construction of 2000 new affordable dwellings for rental and home ownership by 2016-17.

In addition to the 50 units in Karama, over 100 affordable rental units are under construction across Darwin and Palmerston and will be available for rent to eligible key workers in early 2015.

For more information on the head-leasing scheme go to: www.housing.nt.gov.au/housing_choices/rent/head_leasing_initiative or contact property managers Elders on 0400 883 354.

Photo attached: Successful tenant, Annisa McCormick and daughter Grainne at their new home.

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