Kurringal demolition to start within weeks

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A former run-down public housing complex in Fannie Bay will be demolished within weeks to make way for new, modern housing.

Minister for Housing Bess Price said the Halikos Group had been awarded the contract to redevelop the Kurringal Flats site and were expected to start knocking down the derelict unit blocks by the end of the month.

“The demolition of Kurringal Flats will take around three months and will make way for a proposed new residential development to include 80 affordable units available under the affordable rental Real Housing for Growth initiative,” Mrs Price said.

“Construction of the buildings, including the units available for affordable rentals, is expected to be completed by the end of 2016 following the developer obtaining the required development approvals.

“This project supports the Giles Government’s plan to ease housing cost pressures by supporting the attraction and retention of key skilled workers in the Territory such as teachers, mechanics, administrative staff, childcare workers and hospitality or retail staff.

“The Northern Territory Government’s head-leasing initiative is increasing the supply of affordable housing by leasing newly constructed properties from the private rental market and sub-leasing them to eligible Territorians at 30% below market rates.

“In this development, eligible Real Housing for Growth tenants can apply to the Department to purchase their unit at market value. Tenants can access affordable home purchase options available through the initiative.

“The housing complex was beyond its economic life and was notorious for high levels of antisocial behaviour. The former tenants have been relocated to alternative public housing around Darwin, and were able to nominate their preferred new location.”

The Department of Housing released an Expression of Interest to redevelop the site in 2014.

Proposals were assessed and the successful proponents short-listed.
Short-listed proponents were invited to participate in a Request for Detailed Proposals phase, where they were required to provide more detail about the proposed concept including timeframes for delivery, purchase price and community engagement.

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