BESS PRICE MLA | Member for STUART
Minister for Housing

More social housing opportunities for Territorians

7 October 2015

Minister for Housing Bess Price today announced that Territorians are set to benefit from social housing through an innovative Department of Housing program.

The Housing Minister announced a request for proposals by property owners and developers to provide newly constructed properties across the Territory to then lease back to the Department of Housing for 6 or more years.

“Recently I have undertaken extensive consultation across the Territory with the Department of Housing and KPMG as part of the housing strategy review, which included discussions about social housing as a positive option,” Minister Price said.

“We are now saying to developers and builders that if you have new properties, we are happy to head lease the property and use it for social housing, similar to our successful Real Housing for Growth program, which has delivered over five hundred new affordable dwellings across the Territory.”

“The Country Liberals Government believes this program is a key first step in increasing the supply of new social housing to reduce wait lists, provide flexibility of housing options, reduce the average age of social housing properties, and reduce repairs and maintenance costs.

“The project will be done in partnership with the community housing sector, who will be invited to submit proposals to manage the properties at a later stage.

“We are working hard to meet the demand of eligible applicants in need of housing and the new properties will be available to Territorians who need social housing assistance.”

The Requests for Proposals documentation will be available from Monday 12 October and close on Friday November 6, 2015.

Industry briefings will be held in regional centres across the Territory over the coming weeks.

“This is an important initiative to grow the community housing sector in the Northern Territory while delivering new social housing for Territorians in need,” Minister Price said.

“The Northern Territory Government is creating a strong society to support Territorians with greater housing choices through fast land release while valuing the rights of individual freedoms, so everyone can have access to housing opportunities and housing affordability."

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