Work has finished on the first of two new public housing blocks in Katherine specially built for seniors and people with physical or mobility issues.

Minister for Housing Bess Price announced today that the six one-bedroom units in Acacia Drive were the first public housing to be built in Katherine for more than 20 years.

She said the Acacia Drive units were being rented to seniors who could live independently.

All the units had been allocated already and the new tenants were now preparing to move in with the assistance of the Department of Housing.

Work on the second block of six two-bedroom units at Martin Terrace - suitable for seniors with carers or people with mobility issues - was expected to be completed by the end of this month (July).

Accompanied today by the Chief Minister Adam Giles and the Member for Katherine, Willem Westra van Holthe, Mrs Price inspected the Acacia Drive units with new tenant Edgar McIntyre, 73.

Mr McIntyre has been allocated one of the new homes after residing at the Department of Housing’s Victoria Highway complex since 1999.

“It’s wonderful to see senior tenants like Mr McIntyre moving into these new homes,” Mrs Price said.

Mrs Price said priority when allocating the units had been given to rehousing seniors currently living in flood-prone public housing elsewhere in Katherine.

“I’m proud to say that the Giles CLP Government listened to our senior tenants’ concerns and that we have delivered them new secure homes,” she said.

Mrs Price said the Government’s HousingActionNT strategy was committed to delivering 40 new and redeveloped properties over the next five years in Katherine.

“Not only does an initiative like this help out our older residents, it also plays its part in reducing the waitlist by freeing up existing public housing for others,” she said.

Willem Westra van Holthe said the seniors’ housing project demonstrated the Country Liberals’ commitment to Katherine.

“These homes are of a high quality, secure and will help reduce the waitlist in Katherine,” he said.

“I’m delighted that we are looking after our most vulnerable residents with such a fantastic public housing project, and that the Government has delivered on its promises to the people of Katherine.”
development like this.

“This is a great development for Katherine, providing much needed housing for our seniors after being neglected by the previous government.”

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