Exciting new land development at Lee Point

A large area of vacant defence land at Lee Point will soon be transformed into a new residential subdivision that will house up to 2000 people.

The Minister for Lands and Planning, Kon Vatskalis, today announced 76 hectares of land adjacent to Lee Point Road, east of Royal Darwin Hospital and the suburb of Tiwi, will be sold to the Defence Housing Authority (DHA).

"This land has been a wasted resource for far too long," Mr Vatskalis said.

"The Territory Government has been negotiating on the release of this prime piece of land for development for many years, and I’m pleased to say we’re now finally starting to see some results.

"The Government was given the first option to purchase the land, however following an approach by the Defence Housing Authority (DHA), we decided it would be in everyone’s best interest if we worked jointly with Defence, and requested Federal Minister, Robert Hill, sell the land directly to the Defence Housing Authority (DHA).

"I wrote to the Federal Minister for Finance, Senator Nick Minchin, urging him to approve the sale, and I’m very pleased Senator Minchin has agreed to the sale following my correspondance.

"A Memorandum of Understanding between the Territory Government and the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) is now being developed to ensure a well designed, safe, energy efficient and quality living residential development.

"This document will look at how many lots are likely to be yielded in the new subdivision, and what the next steps are in the development process.

"This is a win-win situation for Defence families and the broader community, with the creation of a quality mixed-residential subdivision.

"The construction phase will also be welcomed by the local construction industry, which is expected to share a large piece of the pie.

"This Government is building a better Territory, and in doing so, we are creating new jobs and opportunities for all."

Minister Vatskalis said a working group representing the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment and the Defence Housing Authority is now being set up, to consult closely with Darwin City Council on urban design issues.

The land will need to be rezoned to allow for redevelopment, with all proposals subject to the normal planning processes,