Minister for Housing John Ah Kit today announced that redevelopment of Kurringal Flats for a $3.5 million Seniors’ Village is well under way, with the caretaker’s house being demolished and work starting on the demolition of blocks 3, 5 and 7. The total Kurringal project is valued at $7.5 million.

"The Territory Government encourages Senior Territorians to remain living in the Territory and aims to provide quality services to seniors." Mr Ah Kit said.

"Territory seniors make up a growing proportion of our population with many seniors now choosing to retire in the Territory to stay close to family and friends. This is great for the younger generation as a simple thing like having a grandparent around can help a child grow with good values and feel a sense of belonging."

"The proposed development will have a positive impact on the existing and future pleasantness of the area," Mr Ah Kit said.

The proposed Fannie Bay Seniors Village on the cleared site promotes contemporary housing set in a village style development, with landscape design that incorporates both private and common areas to create a place of sanctuary within an already established high density residential precinct.

The dwellings are designed for tropical living with cross ventilation through habitable rooms and outdoor living areas. All taps, door handles etc. that are used in the design will be put in place with seniors in mind.

Plans have been lodged with the Development Consent Authority to build 40 x 2-bedroom units. Pink signs indicating the application has been made will be erected on site from Friday 31 October 2003.

If Development Consent Authority approval is granted, construction is expected to start in March 2004 with completion set for the end of that year. Upon completion there will be a total of 124 units on the site.