21 March 2004

100+ Territory Workers on Urban Renewal in Darwin - more to come in regional centres

Over 100 Territory contractors and trades people are being directly employed in Territory Housing's largest urban renewal program in the Territory's history in the Darwin area alone. Housing Minister John Ah Kit announced today.

“This is a fantastic boost to the small end of town, with painters, plant operators, form workers, concreters, metal fabricators, carpenters, gardeners, security screen installers, cabinet makers, tillers, plumbers, roofers and electricians getting a slice of the action in every urban centre in the Territory.

“Despite difficult conditions with the prolonged wet season, they are out there working their backsides off to improve the quality of life for hundreds of their fellow Territorians.

“By 30 June 2004 the Quality Land Lord Strategy will have devoted $4.3 million towards a program that will bring all public housing up to an acceptable standard over the next 3-5 years at a total cost of $45 million,” said Mr Ah Kit.

“Many of the dwellings involved have not had any significant upgrade since just after the Cyclone, so it's great to see the program in full swing.

“As well as Darwin benefiting, work is rolling out in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Palmerston. Small centres such as Batchelor and Adelaide are also getting a look in.”

At a glance:

Territory wide (to 30 June 2004):

Completed: $837,389.26

Work in progress: $956,500.00

Work being assessed: $2,561,000.00

Total $4,354,889.26