More accommodation for homeless men in Alice Springs

The Salvation Army has completed and opened eight new rooms at their Goyder Street facility to provide accommodation for men facing homelessness.

The $1.4 million project was funded by the Australian Government under the Alice Springs Transformation Plan which is helping to reduce homelessness and overcrowding by providing more accommodation.

The Territory Government is also providing an additional $64 000 to the Salvation Army to manage this new facility.

There are now over 220 extra beds for people to stay in at Alice Springs as a result of the Salvation Army Goyder Street facility, the new Alice Springs Visitors Park and short term accommodation on South Terrace.

Under the Alice Springs Transformation Plan, work is also being completed at Percy Court to deliver 28 new units for transitional housing and 35 rooms at the Lodge in Bath Street to accommodate people coming to town for medical treatment. Work is also underway to build 85 new houses and refurbish or rebuild all houses in the town camps.

Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park

An $11 million Visitor Park was recently opened in Alice Springs to provide Aboriginal visitors with a safe place to stay.

 Aboriginal people from remote communities visit Alice Springs for a variety of reasons, such as accessing medical services, attending sporting events, visiting family and purchasing goods and services, and the Visitor Park provides much needed accommodation option for an affordable fee.

The park's name "Apmere Mwerre" was suggested by the Traditional Owners of Alice Springs and means "a good place" in the local Arrernte language.

The Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park contains a mix of self-contained units, cabins and camping facilities, offering a range of short-term accommodation options for up to 150 people. The park will be supported by regular public transport services to make it easier for people to get to and from town.

The new accommodation park will meet the vital need to provide families and vulnerable people with safe and secure accommodation where drugs and alcohol are not tolerated. It will also help to alleviate overcrowding in the Alice Springs town camps.

The park will be managed by Aboriginal Hostels Limited, which has more than 30 years experience in providing accommodation services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Visitor Park has also created 18 new jobs for locals under the management Aboriginal Hostels Limited.

The Visitor Park is part of the $150 million Alice Springs Transformation Plan a partnership between the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to improve the lives of Aboriginal residents and visitors in Alice Springs.
Construction starts on new Larapinta Seniors Village

Work has started on the construction of 18 units at Larapinta Seniors Village. The Territory Government is investing $5.4 million in the new village, which will include 12 x two-bedroom and 6 x one-bedroom units all designed specifically to meet the needs of seniors.

The Alice Springs company Asbuild has won the tender to build the new units.

Seniors are one of the biggest groups of tenants in Territory Housing and the seniors villages are very popular. Senior tenants will be able to enjoy the new facilities, low maintenance gardens and living amongst other seniors.

The Larapinta Seniors Village is aiming to be opened by the end of the year.

The development will further increase public housing dwellings in Alice Springs with another four new units underway at the Gap and 2 x four-bedroom homes completed last July.