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Tender opens to improve visitor accommodation

Alice Springs will soon have more short-term accommodation options to address overcrowding in town camps.

The tender for the Alice Springs Accommodation Park has been called and will close on April 21, with the successful company expected to commence work by the end of April and finish mid-year.

The Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin, the Northern Territory Minister for Central Australia, Karl Hampton and the Federal Member for Lingiari, Warren Snowdon today welcomed the next step in reducing the pressure on public housing and overcrowding in the community.

“It is critical that Indigenous people have access to quality short-term accommodation when they visit Alice Springs,” Ms Macklin said.

“This park will provide a range of accommodation options suitable for individuals and families.

“It will be a managed facility with a caretaker which will give up to 150 people a safe and comfortable environment to stay.”

Under the $150 million Alice Springs Transformation Plan the Australian and Northern Territory Governments are working together to deliver better outcomes for residents and visitors to Alice Springs.

Minister Hampton said the Alice Springs Accommodation Park was an important project for the town.

“This is another example of the work of the Alice Springs Transformation Plan helping to boost the local economy, support jobs and improve life outcomes for Indigenous people in the central region,” Mr Hampton said.
“Initial work on the site started in February with a site clean-up, identification of sacred sites and fencing.

“The next step is the refurbishment of existing buildings that will see a kitchen and dining facility made available as well as BBQ's, fire pits and self service laundry facilities.

“The Alice Springs Transformation Plan team will be working with police and patrolling services to ensure the area surrounding the accommodation park is managed,” Mr Hampton said.

New infrastructure will include a mix of cabins, self- contained units and camping areas.

Member for Lingiari Warren Snowdon said the project will be positive for the people of Alice Springs and others who come into visit from surrounding areas.

“Developments like the Accommodation Park are key planks in our efforts to improve the lives of Aboriginal residents and visitors in Alice Springs” said Mr Snowdon.

The $150 million Alice Springs Transformation Plan is a partnership between the Northern Territory and Australian Governments.

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