



PUBLIC HOUSING FOR VICTORIANS

Currently in Victoria, massive house prices are locking a generation out of home ownership and creating more renters than ever before.

Growing competition for rental properties is causing rents to skyrocket, so more and more Victorians can no longer afford to rent in the private market.

This is putting even more pressure on public housing, with **over 82,000** Victorians (including almost **25,000 children**) waiting for a place to call home.

There's a problem though – after decades of under-investment, there's not enough public housing properties to keep up with the need.

Despite our state's population growth, we have the same number of public housing properties today as 20 years ago.

In 2016-17 alone, 123 new public housing properties were constructed and 106 were sold off – meaning only a net gain of 17 new homes in a year.

Inevitably, this is creating record levels of homelessness.

On any given night, almost **25,000** Victorians are homeless.

And another million are living in housing stress.

The State Labor Government recently announced they would build 1,000 new public housing properties by 2022.

This is a good start but is no-where near enough.

With 500 applicants applying for public housing each month, a bigger build is needed.

We call on the Victorian Government to:

- ✓ **Guarantee a pipeline of public housing construction projects equating to a build of over 6,000 new units by 2022**

Premier Dan Andrews said himself, "If budget circumstances allow for us to do more then of course we would."

With the best economy in the nation, Victoria desperately needs to build at least 2,000 new public housing units each year to address the growing housing crisis.

This would generate jobs, reduce disadvantage, and improve Victorians' quality of life overall.

- ✓ **Renew run-down properties that are passed their use-by date**

Years of neglect and poor management has left too many public housing properties beyond repair.

We need to renew run-down properties so tenants can live comfortably in their homes and have a better standard of living for the rent they pay.

- ✓ **Include public housing in new developments**

Greater Melbourne boasts nearly 200 hectares of government-owned land that could host 30,000 homes.

We urge the Victorian Government to begin using the vacant land they already own for public housing and mandating developers to include public units among their new developments.