

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## DELIVERING MUCH NEEDED HOUSING IN WOLLONGONG

The NSW Government has announced Traders In Purple as development partner to deliver two major projects in Wollongong, delivering 100 new social, affordable and private homes.

The new homes are being built across the two sites – Robert Street, Corrimal and Crown Street, Wollongong – as part of NSW Land and Housing Corporation's Communities Plus program.

Both projects will transform vacant land into new and vibrant, mixed housing communities, delivering a total of 25 new social housing dwellings, with the remaining homes to be a mix of private and affordable housing.

Community Housing Provider, Housing Trust, has been appointed to manage the new social and affordable housing properties across both sites, following the completion of construction.

Minister for Water, Property and Housing, Melinda Pavey, said the two projects, valued at \$36 million, will build modern townhouses and new apartment buildings that blend-in with their surrounding communities and help meet the area's high demand for social housing.

"Mixed housing communities are designed to enhance social outcomes with new and better housing and that's why the NSW Government is investing in building these exciting projects – not just in this region but throughout NSW," Minister Pavey said.

"Traders In Purple have a strong local connection to the Illawarra Region and a clear track record of designing and delivering new housing developments that revitalise local communities and improve tenant experiences.

"These two projects will also deliver critical and timely local economic benefits during construction with the projects anticipated to generate around 70 direct jobs and a further 100 indirect jobs."

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Gareth Ward said the project will provide a safe and secure home for some of the community's most vulnerable.

"Our Government is increasing the supply of housing in new and innovative ways so that we can provide a roof over the head of those who need it most," Mr Ward said.

"Having social and affordable close to services and public transport enables easier access to education, training and jobs, while also providing better opportunities to live a fulfilling life."

Director of Traders In Purple, Charles Daoud, said his group will focus on employing local consultants and subcontractors and buying local supplies from Illawarra businesses as part of the development application and delivery process.

Housing Trust CEO, Michele Adair, said her group's well-established, local community networks will ensure all residents can contribute and enjoy the benefits of living in the region.

Traders In Purple anticipate starting the construction in the next few months on the Robert Street site. A Development Application for the Crown Street site is expected to be lodged with Wollongong City Council in the next six months, with construction to commence in early 2022 subject to planning approvals.

These developments form part of the NSW Government's Future Directions for Social Housing – a plan to drive better outcomes by providing more and better social housing that blends-in with local communities.

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