



Media release

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Homelessness peak welcomes public housing announcement

The Council to Homeless Persons, Victoria's peak body for homelessness, has welcomed the Andrews' Government announcement of 1,000 new public housing properties over three years, which will house around 1,800 Victorians experiencing homelessness.

"It's welcome news to homelessness services that are turning away over 90 Victorians per day due to a lack of housing," said Jenny Smith, CEO, Council to Homeless Persons (CHP)

"Every new social housing unit built spells the end of homelessness for a family struggling to make a fresh start after violence or a rough sleeper trying to get off the street."

"We're now waiting for the other major parties and candidates to reveal their plans for more social housing," said Ms Smith.

CHP said it was especially pleased that 800 of the 1,000 dwellings would be one- and two-bedroom units to meet the demand from single people and small families, which is a key recommendation of CHP's [Victorian Homelessness Election Platform](#).

However, the peak warned that it would take more than 330 dwellings per year (1,000 units over three years) to keep up with demand.

"This is wonderful news for 1,800 vulnerable Victorians experiencing homelessness who will be housed in these properties, and as our population continues to grow, we will need more announcements like this each and every year," said Ms Smith.

On Friday, CHP joined with six Victorian peak bodies to call for [3,000 new public and community housing properties per year](#) for 10 years – the equivalent of a Whittlesea a year. This is in keeping with Infrastructure Victoria's recommendations for 30,000 new social housing units over the next decade.

CHP says it will continue to advocate for more public and community housing to tackle the 38,000 households waiting for social housing in Victoria.

[Ends] **Media enquiries:** Lanie Harris, lanie@chp.org.au or 0418 552 377