

MEDIA RELEASE

BRIDGE HOUSING OPENS MAJOR SOCIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT TO HOUSE SENIORS IN GLEBE

For immediate release

24 January 2018

Leading Sydney community housing organisation Bridge Housing has opened Stage One of a new social housing development of 158 units to house seniors on the site of a former Glebe public housing estate.

The Minister for Social Housing, the Hon. Pru Goward MP, visited the development last week and spoke with residents. The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) built the apartment complex in Elger St Glebe, which was bought on completion by Bridge Housing to manage as social housing.

Stage 1 comprises 48 new homes, seven of which are accessible for people with a disability. All units have lift access and are Silver Level design standard or higher. The building has sustainable design elements, a common room, landscaped gardens and a BBQ area for residents. It has a NatHERS 7 energy efficiency rating.

Tenants have been sourced from the priority public housing waiting list, returning tenants, another public housing complex in Glebe earmarked for redevelopment, and Bridge Housing's own tenant base.

Bridge Housing won a competitive tender to work and co-invest with LAHC to develop the 158 social housing homes in the estate redevelopment. Once the precinct is completed, the building will sit alongside other social and affordable housing, as well as privately owned apartments, in a vibrant mixed community.

It is Bridge Housing's fourth major investment in social housing, financed through a \$35 million loan facility with National Australia Bank, to deliver 160 new homes over the past three years. An additional 110 units in Glebe will also be owned and managed by Bridge Housing as seniors housing.

CEO John Nicolades said: "These modern, customised new homes for seniors are close to the city centre and will help us to meet our ongoing commitment to ensuring older people on low incomes can live and age in place comfortably and affordably within their own communities."

"The housing is the result of a successful partnership with the Department of Family and Community Services and LAHC to deliver more affordable housing in Sydney," he said. "We are delighted to work with government in this way to boost social housing supply."

“Last year Bridge Housing launched its innovative *Places People Want to Live* strategy and its first *Design Guidelines* to inform our strong commitment to ensuring the new housing we invest in meets the needs of our tenants and fosters community connection.”

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About Bridge Housing

Bridge Housing is a leading NSW community housing association that sources and develops social and affordable housing for people on moderate-to-low incomes across 14 new local government areas in greater Sydney. It has more than 2,000 properties housing more than 3,000 people and is set to manage another 1,200 homes on the Northern Beaches by 2019. It recently won an award Leading Innovation at the National Awards for Excellence in Community Housing.

www.bridgehousing.org.au

Read our Annual Report at <https://www.bridgehousing.org.au/pages/annual-report.html>

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