

## Construction commences to bring vacant public homes back into use to house people in need

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5 February 2025 Ministerial media release

Published:

5 February 2025

Released by:

Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Housing

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Work has started on the refurbishing and repairing 'The Three Sisters' also known as the Wade Street Towers in Telopea. This will breathe new life into nearly 150 vacant public housing units that were originally set for demolition under the former Government.

This comes as the Minns Labor Government ended it's 'dud-deal' partnership with Frasers in October 2024 that would have seen the privatisation, demolition of the towers and with skyrocketing costs and lengthy delays.

The refurbishment of 148 units in the Wade Street Towers is the first important step to help people in need get a safe roof over their head.

Work is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Once complete, the Wade Street Towers will provide around 240 residents a safe place to call home for the next 5-10 years while longer term renewal plans for Telopea are developed.

The commencement of these works also marks the one-year anniversary since the establishment of Homes NSW by the Minns Labor Government, bringing the management of public homes and tenants under one roof to rebuild a broken public housing system.

This is part of the NSW Government's historic \$6.6 Billion Building Homes for NSW Program which will build up to 30,000 homes as well as 8400 public homes.

## Minister for Housing and Homelessness Rose Jackson said:

"Last year we put an end to the Liberal/National's dud-deal which left the future of Telopea at a standstill and nearly 150 homes sitting empty in the middle of a housing crisis. This is a commonsense practical approach to help tackle the housing crisis and get homes built quickly.

"We have taken more action in 1 year than the former Government made in 12 years. Getting people in safe, modern homes is what we are focused on."

Since the announcement to scrap the former Government's dud-deal we have had an outpouring of support from the community who have been waiting for action. Today is another step forward to build more homes to help those who need it most.

"This project is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to put people back at the heart of housing and rebuild our state's public and affordable housing system."

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