The Hon. Nick Staikos MP

Minister for Housing, Building and Precincts
Minister for Homelessness
Minister for Seniors

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CMIN-260900405

Robert McDonald,
Clerk of the Legislative Council
Parliament of Victoria
Parliament Housing
Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Via email: council@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr McDonald,

Thank you for your letter of 24 September 2026 regarding the petition to commit to a long-term housing strategy with clear targets to increase the supply of social and affordable homes for those most at risk of homelessness.

The Victorian Government recognises the importance of housing stability in underpinning the health, wellbeing and economic participation of all Victorians. The landmark $5.3 billion Big Housing Build investment announced in 2020 was a major boost to social and affordable housing delivery in Victoria. Total investment across all capital programs has now grown to more than $8 billion. This includes additional investments such as the Regional Housing Fund, Social Housing Growth Fund, and others. These combined investments are delivering over 16,700 social and affordable homes, more than 11,300 of which are already completed as of June 2026, with more to come.

Major investments and reforms will help address homelessness, improve housing supply, access, and affordability, and support more Victorians to live in safe and secure housing that meets their needs. Through *Victoria's Housing Statement – The Decade Ahead* and *Plan for Victoria*, Government is progressing a range of planning system reforms designed to speed up planning approval processes and deliver more housing supply to the market, including supporting more social and affordable housing. These include:

1. Expanding the Development Facilitation Program (DFP) to introduce new affordable housing contribution requirements for developers wishing to access streamlined planning approval.
2. Unlocking surplus government land to deliver more homes across an initial 45 sites and including a minimum target of ten per cent affordable housing.
3. Launching Australia's biggest ever urban renewal program that will see all 44 public housing high-rise towers across Melbourne redeveloped with a ten per cent uplift of total social homes across these sites.

VICTORIA
State Government

4. Updating planning controls across 60 metropolitan activity centres to facilitate an additional 300,000 homes closer to transport and services.
5. Setting outlines housing capacity targets for every local government area across Victoria to help guide councils on where future homes should be built by 2051.

More recently the Victorian Government recently announced a six-point plan, building on existing investment to bridge critical service gaps and strengthen a future-focused homelessness service system. The plan delivers the following actions:

1. Establish by-name lists and trial an online triage tool
2. Expand the number and reach of assertive outreach workers
3. Embed dedicated service coordination for people sleeping rough
4. Increase access into Housing First housing responses for people sleeping rough
5. House more young people by continuing leading youth homelessness programs
6. Expand tenancy supports to prevent Victorians from returning to homelessness.

The plan addresses the most pressing issues in the homelessness system and sets the framework for the future. It creates a foundation to a more coordinated response that makes better use of existing programs and is more tailored to people's needs. The plan ensures people at risk of homelessness are provided with help before they experience crisis, while providing ongoing support to keep people housed and connected to the right supports.

We will continue to work closely with practitioners, people with lived experience of homelessness and the specialist homelessness sector to roll out this plan so that we can best service those entering the homelessness system over the long-term.

I trust this information has been of assistance and thank you again for sharing this matter.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Nick Staikos MP
Minister for Housing, Building and Precincts
Minister for Homelessness
Minister for Seniors

20/10/2026

cc: Hon. Ingrid Stitt, Member for Western Metropolitan and Minister for Health, Mental Health, Ambulance Services and Special Minister of State.