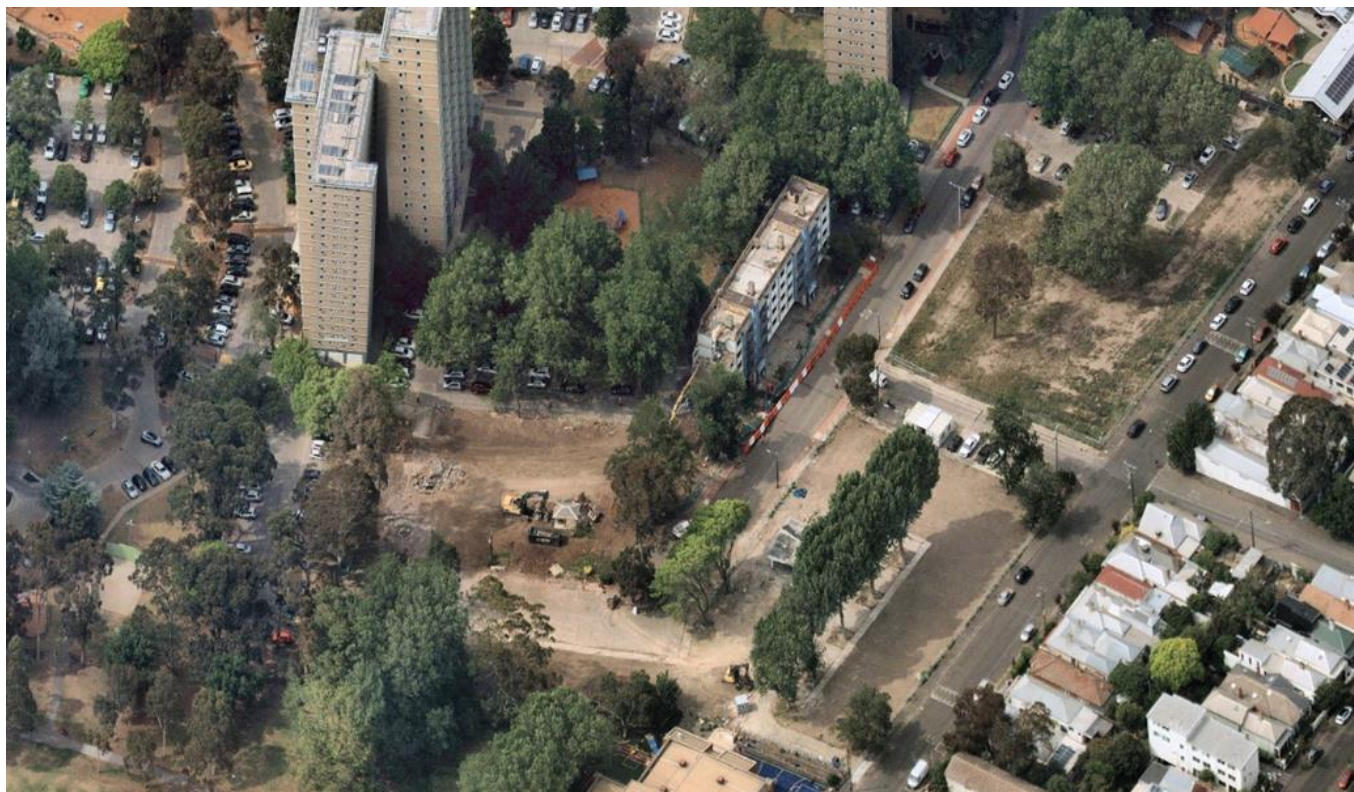


Holland Court, Flemington redevelopment site

Newsletter

The Holland Court redevelopment site will offer increased housing opportunities for more Victorians than ever before with Stage One delivering new social housing in Flemington.



The Victorian Government is working with the State's most established development and housing organisations to redevelop public housing sites across metropolitan Melbourne - replacing ageing public housing stock with modern, new homes that meet the needs of all Victorians. The redevelopments are guided by a set of development criteria that require:



modern environmental and accessibility standards that deliver the homes our tenants deserve



social housing delivery creating diverse, inclusive, and active communities - rejuvenating the social fabric in Flemington



options for Victorians on lower incomes to access affordable housing



natural and heritage aspects of the sites to be respected and retained, where possible



new community assets including; playgrounds, a bicycle path and community gardens

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Project deliverables

Prior to the demolition works, there were 198 dwellings on the Holland Court part of the Flemington Estate. Under the new development they will be replaced by at least 218 new social housing homes in the first stage of construction on the land formerly occupied by the walk-up flats.

Stage One of the Flemington redevelopment will see the delivery of housing outcomes that will include:

- 218 new social housing dwellings - an increase of 10% from the existing 198 units
- design principles that encourages and maximises sight lines, increase the active and passive surveillance at Holland Court
- all homes to meet the current Better Apartment Design Standards. Developing homes that are; built to much higher environmental standards, are more cost-effective to live in, and that minimise energy costs
- a guaranteed right to return for former tenants to the redeveloped site should they wish to return



Redevelopment timeline



Demolition process

With demolition almost complete the department is finalising works with demolition specialists Independent Demolition Pty Ltd to continue to ensure that impacts on neighbours and local schools are effectively managed to minimise disruption.

What's next



demolition works are in their final stage and are close to completion



once demolition is complete the site is grass seeded and secured with a temporary fence to ensure safety



the department of health and human services is currently in a live procurement process for a development partner to redevelop the site. The outcomes of this process will be reported back to community at the appropriate time



prior to any construction activity taking place at the site a construction management plan must be approved. The department will work with local stakeholders to manage and minimise the impacts of these activities for families and neighbours of the Flemington site

Relocations

Relocation update

Moving home can be a big change for many tenants and the department is committed to helping tenants transition smoothly and comfortably to their new housing. This includes identifying accommodation suitable to tenant needs close to family and support services.

The department has covered relocation expenses and provides broader support for any unforeseen issues.

The department will keep relocated tenants updated on the progress of the redevelopment and when they can move back.

As with all relocation efforts, tenant welfare is paramount. Our objective is to relocate each tenant to a new home that better suits their current needs while providing them the security of a right to return to the redeveloped site upon completion.

One example of tenant relocation is a story from a former tenant of the Preston estate (see their story on the back page).

Consultative Committee

Community engagement is a key element of public housing redevelopment. A Consultative Committee has been established for the redevelopment of the Flemington site.

The committee, chaired by Mr Danny Pearson MP - State Member for Essendon and deputy chaired by Ms Ingrid Stitt MP - Western Metropolitan Region, brings together community members and representatives of local organisations to ensure effective communication throughout the redevelopment process.

It enables ongoing and two-way feedback through an active participatory approach with stakeholders and the community.

Members of the committee have the opportunity to provide feedback on redevelopment plans and identify local issues and matters of concern as they arise.

Members will provide input and effectively communicate back to their communities to support the successful delivery of the project.



Meet the Chair

Danny Pearson MP

As your local Member representing the State District of Essendon, I am very pleased to be chairing the Flemington Consultative Committee meetings, supporting our Victorian Government's Public Housing Redevelopment Program in Flemington.



I am passionate about breathing new life into our public housing estates and I have a deep appreciation and respect for engaging the community so that we get the very best outcome in Flemington; the people of Flemington deserve nothing less.

I had the great fortune to be elected to State Parliament in 2014. Not long after I was elected, a little boy was in his walk up flat in Flemington. It was a hot day and the window was open. The little boy placed his hand on the window sill when suddenly it dropped and he nearly lost his finger. I met with the boy and his family after this traumatic event and thought that there has to be a better way. A better way for public housing tenants to live in modern, safe, energy efficient and affordable accommodation. For the past few years, I have spent a significant amount of time down on the Estate talking with residents and this experience has given me a deeper appreciation about the importance of providing public housing tenants with safe shelter.

The old walk up flats at Flemington were built more than 50 years ago, for persons on low income. These buildings were demolished as they were no longer consistent with contemporary building standards, they were not energy efficient and they did not provide access for people with mobility challenges.

I am committed to play my part to support this critical public housing redevelopment project. One of the single biggest issues that constituents have raised with me is the need for more public housing in our community. People want to see more public housing and public housing that meets the needs of our community.

Should you wish to contact my office regarding the progress of the redevelopment site at Flemington you can call (03) 9370 7777 or email

danny.pearson@parliament.vic.gov.au

Case study

New home, new beginnings, thriving family

A mother and her family were successfully relocated to a new home that better suits their needs.

The large family were living in a small 1940s semi-detached unit in Preston.

Their home was too small for their needs but like many vulnerable Victorians they were happy to have a roof over their heads.

In 2019, our Client Engagement Team relocated the family to a house close to their old home.

The family are now living in a house that allows the entire family to lead a more fulfilled life, undoubtedly a relocation which has changed their lives dramatically.

The new family home, in a neighbouring suburb, not only accommodates the whole family, but also, provides a more suitable space to care for a disabled family member.

We wish the family all the best with their future endeavours of home care, employment, schooling and happiness.

The next CC meeting

As a result of COVID-19 all Consultative Committee meetings have been postponed indefinitely.

Find out more

Further background and information about this project is available on the DHHS website. Please visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/public-housing-renewal-program to find out more.

To receive this publication in an accessible format email [<estate.renewal@dhhs.vic.gov.au>](mailto:estate.renewal@dhhs.vic.gov.au)

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