

Media release

Eleri Morgan-Thomas, CEO

Delivering 12 homes a week over the last year

Homes Tasmania's social housing delivery program is continuing to provide safe, secure and affordable homes for Tasmanians in need.

Homes Tasmania CEO, Eleri Morgan-Thomas said almost 100 Tasmanians were housed off the Housing Register in August 2023 according to the latest Housing Dashboard.

"Our build program continues and we can see increasing numbers of households housed off the Housing Register. Over the past three months, 378 long-term homes were delivered and 295 households housed into social housing," Ms Morgan-Thomas said.

"The August Housing Dashboard revealed that Tasmania's Affordable Housing Strategy delivered a total of 3 501 homes, lots of land and new units of supported or homelessness accommodation.

"This includes building or acquiring 2 119 new long-term homes, with 616 delivered in the past year, or 12 homes a week over the last 12 months.

"Additionally, 1 734 households have been assisted and properties secured by the use of existing dwellings for social housing, supported accommodation or homeless accommodation. This includes Tasmanians helped through Private Rental Incentives, Rapid Rehousing and access to existing homes for home ownership."

Ms Morgan-Thomas said a range of housing options were critical to helping Tasmanians with different needs and circumstances including affordable housing assistance.

"There were 25 households supported into new affordable home ownership in August, and 271 households have been assisted through home ownership programs in the past 12 months," she said.

"Overall, Tasmania's Affordable Housing Strategy has assisted 5 235 households with social and affordable housing to August 2023.

"These programs are in addition to more than 14 000 households already living in social housing."

Ms Morgan-Thomas said with 4 617 applicants on the Housing Register as at the end of August, Homes Tasmania was maintaining a strong pipeline of works to secure the delivery of more homes for Tasmanians in need.

"The number of applicants on the Housing Register increased by 19 between June and August. Demand remains high for social housing.

"A further 881 long-term homes and units of supported or homelessness accommodation are in Homes Tasmania's pipeline of works at the end of August, another significant milestone towards the Tasmanian Government's \$1.5 billion housing plan to deliver 10 000 social and affordable homes by 2032," she said.

Ms Morgan-Thomas said that Homes Tasmania was committed to keeping the community up to date with progress to build and acquire social and affordable housing.

“We are developing a contemporary reporting framework to support the Tasmanian Housing Strategy which I anticipate will be released later this year,” she said.

“Our new reporting framework will reflect Homes Tasmania’s broad remit and will report clearly and simply on the Government’s housing plan.”

Ms Morgan-Thomas said that Homes Tasmania completed a quality assurance review of data for the August Housing Dashboard.

“The August data corrects the results of a system error in the regular six-monthly review of applications that occurred in the previous report,” Ms Morgan-Thomas said.

Ms Morgan-Thomas said that the Dashboard was based on point in time reporting therefore July data is incorrect and should not be used for comparative purposes.

“I can reassure those applicants affected that their status, including their assessed priority and wait times, has not been affected by the system error,” she said.

Ms Morgan-Thomas also said that the August Dashboard also accurately allocates purchased units, either as new supply if they are dwellings that have been purchased as new or as previously non-residential homes, or as other assistance if the homes are purchased from the private rental market. This is reflected in an adjustment by 89 properties from new supply to other assistance.

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