

MEDIA RELEASE

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H.A. funding for more social and affordable housing will underwrite market housing viability

CEO of Urban Taskforce Australia, Tom Forrest, today welcomed the latest "Stream" of social and affordable housing funding provided through the Housing Australia Future Fund (Round 3). This new stream targets low density Class 1 housing.

Housing Australia is now designing its funding programs to support the development of privately delivered housing supply. Federal Housing Minister Clare O'Neil and Housing Australia have shifted the focus of funding to ensure that HA supports market supply in conjunction with social and affordable housing.

This is a good shift and one that now appears to be embedded in the operation of Housing Australia.

That funding for much needed social and affordable housing effectively under-writes the viability of projects and in so doing, stimulates market housing supply as well.

This new "stream" of funding will be subject to a call for submissions from Community Housing Providers along with the States and Territories, local government and housing enablers.

This stream of funding will support up to 1,000 new social and affordable homes that are already close or at a shovel-ready state.

Housing Australia has advised that these projects will be fixed packages of exactly 200 dwellings, comprising 100 social homes and 100 affordable homes.

At a time where sales are softening, this is an important boost to the housing sector which also delivers on the Commonwealth's Housing Accord commitments.

The timeline for completion is deliberately tight with the target of this stream of funding being "shovel-ready projects" which will be completed by 31 December 2027.

end

*The comments and analysis above can be attributed to **Tom Forrest**, CEO, Urban Taskforce.*

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*The **Urban Taskforce Australia** is a property development industry group, representing Australia's most prominent property developers and equity financiers.*