



MEDIA RELEASE

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INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP TO HOUSE WOMEN ESCAPING DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE

City West Housing has devised an innovative partnership and funding model to develop much-needed new housing for women and their children escaping domestic or family violence (DFV).

A specialist in developing affordable rental apartments in inner Sydney, City West Housing has worked with local, state and federal government to fund its new 74-unit¹ Boronia Apartments development in Bourke St, Waterloo.

A third of the apartments will be allocated to women and children at risk of homelessness due to DFV. The other apartments will be tenanted as affordable housing to a range of people on very low-to-moderate incomes, including essential workers in the City of Sydney.

The \$55 million development is being financed through:

- Developer levies from the City of Sydney
- a loan from the Federal Government's National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation (NHFIC)
- the NSW Government's Community Housing Innovation Fund – Domestic and Family Violence Program (CHIF-DFV)
- City West Housing cash reserves.

City West Housing CEO Leonie King said: "By innovating and collaborating with our partners, City West Housing can start to develop at scale to address the issue of women in our community having nowhere to go when they flee the family home due to family or domestic violence."

"This is also the first time City West Housing has leveraged our balance sheet to secure project finance for a new development and we are delighted that NHFIC has partnered with us to make it happen."

Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore said: "At the City of Sydney we take domestic violence extremely seriously, and I am glad to see this partnership come to light. Having a safe place to call home is a vital step to independence and autonomy for women and children. I congratulate all involved in achieving this significant goal, and I hope these homes provide the peace and stability needed by domestic violence victim-survivors."

¹ Subject to Council approval



NHFIC CEO Nathan Le Bon said: “With the need to provide safe and secure housing for vulnerable and at risk women and their children increasing, we are proud to support this development, and to be working in partnership with City West Housing, the NSW Government and City of Sydney to increase the supply of much needed accommodation. NHFIC is pleased to be supporting projects such as this one to contribute to the Commonwealth Government’s commitment to building more social and affordable housing.”

Women escaping domestic or family violence are already a priority applicant group on City West Housing’s housing 1,000-strong waiting list.

City West Housing also entered a new partnership last year with City of Sydney, Women’s Community Shelters (WCS) and student accommodation provider, Scape Australia, to provide safe and secure studios to 20 single women at risk of homelessness. The Abbie House project uses student accommodation left vacant because of COVID-19 travel restrictions and reduced international student numbers.

Boronia Apartments is expected to be completed in 2024.

Please find attached two artist’s impressions of the building.

For further information or an interview, please contact:

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About City West Housing

City West Housing is an affordable housing provider and developer with heart. We are focused on creating highly quality, affordable homes and communities where everyone can feel they belong. We own 900 quality homes in prime inner Sydney locations that we rent to more than 1,600 residents and their families.

We are the only affordable housing provider in New South Wales delivering the full spectrum of services from new housing development to tenancy management and community engagement. We are experts in developing quality fit-for-purpose residential apartments.

Visit www.citywesthousing.com.au for more information.



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