



Communique

Aboriginal Housing Victoria Board Meeting

Friday 29 May 2020

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) held their fifth Board meeting for the calendar year on Friday 29 May via videoconference.

Victorian Government *Building Works* COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Package

The State Government is seeking proposals from community housing organisations to apply for funding through its new \$498m *Building Works* economic stimulus package. It includes:

- \$35m specifically earmarked for Aboriginal housing to be used for maintenance, upgrades and modular housing;
- \$50 million for community housing providers to undertake maintenance and upgrade work on social housing properties they manage or own;
- \$58 million to deliver brand new, shovel-ready social housing in Reservoir, Balaclava, Dandenong and Hampton Park, (including 2 AHV projects);
- \$125 million for projects that increase housing options for women and children escaping family violence, Aboriginal Victorians, and those leaving State Government services;
- \$30m fund housing people transitioning from justice facilities;
- \$30m fund for emergency and transitional housing; and
- \$10m fund to support women and children escaping family violence.

AHV is proposing to coordinate a bid for the \$35m Aboriginal specific funding, in partnership with Victorian Aboriginal community controlled organisations and Traditional Owner groups with property portfolios.

New AHV properties come on line

The Board noted that AHV's property portfolio now stands at 1,555, with the completion of 3 new properties located in Melbourne's south east. New tenancies have now commenced in all 3 properties.

Care packs for Elders

The Board noted that AHV's Wellbeing Team has worked closely with the Operations Team to purchase, pack and distribute over 300+ care packs for our Elders living in AHV properties across Victoria.

Elders aged 60+ have received a little gift from AHV via the post with a message that we are thinking of them during these difficult times. The care packs include a foldup shopping bag,

stationary set, a keyring, playing cards that featured Aboriginal artwork (sourced from Dreamtime Kullilla-Art) and assorted bath/body products including a pair of socks with Aboriginal art designs.

Quarterly reporting

The Board received quarterly reports on progress against the business plan actions and the dashboard report on organisational performance. The Board noted actions underway to continue to improve performance.