

MEDIA RELEASE

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New mixed tenure development in Brisbane's inner south officially opens

Brisbane Housing Company, one of Queensland's largest community housing providers, has opened the doors to its striking new project in Woolloongabba, providing much-needed homes for those in need.

Minister for Communities and Housing, the Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP today (6 May) officially opened the \$12.1 million, 32-unit complex at Cornwall Street, Woolloongabba.

BHC CEO Rebecca Oelkers said the Cornwall Street development has made an important contribution to increasing the supply of affordable housing in Brisbane's inner city.

"BHC developed and partially funded the Cornwall Street building to provide a roof over the head of some of the state's most vulnerable, alongside essential workers, actively supporting Brisbane's health, education and transport industries.

"This architecturally designed building provides safe and secure homes for 32 Queensland households, including five homes reserved for young people. Prior to accessing a home at Cornwall Street, some residents were living in unsuitable and unstable accommodation- moving from homelessness or lower income workers living in rental stress in the private market.

"These homes are now providing life-changing opportunities for their new residents to work, connect and thrive within close proximity to local services, transport and the amenity of the inner city," Ms Oelkers said.

Frankie Mitchell, one of the building's first tenants – said moving into this property meant security and peace of mind.

"The house we had been renting on the Gold Coast for 5 years was sold, this was a very stressful time. We are so grateful to be here" Ms Mitchell said.

"Imagine our surprise when the apartment turned out to be so thoughtfully constructed and built for purpose. We were thrilled with the fittings and finish of project and so were our children. There has obviously been a lot of thought and respectful consideration in the design of the apartments for people who are most vulnerable."

Ms Oelkers agrees that respect and care for residents is the cornerstones of the development. "We know that people in housing need come from all walks of life and projects like Cornwall Street provide opportunities and inclusion to a wide range of people," she said.

"We are proud to have delivered one of the first Partnering for Growth projects in conjunction with the Queensland Government and we look forward to bringing future projects like this to life."

Notes:

- The total project cost was \$10.7 million: including an investment of \$5.85 million from the Queensland Government and \$4.85 million from BHC.
- The project contains 32 units- 27 units for people in dire housing need as well as essential workers and 5 units specifically reserved for young people.
- BHC has provided more than 6,000 households with access to high-quality, well-located affordable housing across Brisbane since it was established in 2002.