



# Media Release

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**TANYA PLIBERSEK MP**  
Minister for Housing  
**JENNIFER RANKINE MP**  
South Australian Minister for Housing  
**AMANDA RISHWORTH MP**  
Member for Kingston

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## **Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan supporting construction jobs in Kingston**

The Australian and South Australian Governments today announced that construction is about to begin in Kingston on Stage One of the Rudd Government's Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan for an extra 20,000 social houses.

Minister for Housing, Tanya Plibersek, South Australian Minister for Housing, Jennifer Rankine and Member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth today inspected a site in Hackham where work will soon be underway.

The Australian and South Australian Governments have committed to deliver 20 new social housing dwellings in Kingston July 2010 at a cost of \$6.11 million.

"We needed to move quickly in order to provide a stimulus to the economy so we asked the South Australian Government to provide us with a list of projects which could be fast-tracked with work to begin immediately," Ms Plibersek said.

"These projects would have rolled out over time but the Rudd Government wanted to see these houses built now to support jobs in the building industry."

Ms Plibersek said the Rudd Government's \$6.4 billion investment to build 20,000 social housing dwellings across Australia will stimulate the building and construction industry and has been estimated by Treasury to support 15,000 jobs nationally over the next two years.

"Nearly 70 percent of the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan is infrastructure and these construction projects are now underway," Ms Plibersek said.

"When the stimulus package gets up to full steam in about 12 months, there will be around 35,000 individual construction projects around the country.

"It's not just about jobs for builders and tradies but also associated industries such as building manufacturers and suppliers who help keep the Australian economy ticking over."

Ms Rankine said this was great news for local jobs – not just in Kingston but right across South Australia, where 246 social housing dwellings will be built at a cost of \$51.87 million.

"It's critical for all governments during these tough economic times to do all we can to help businesses retain their current employees as well as employ more people," Ms Rankine said.

“We’ve given the Commonwealth Government our undertaking that all these homes will be ready for tenants to move into by June 2010.

“We’ve hit the ground running because we know that we need to move quickly to take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity.”

Ms Rishworth said housing and construction is a major employer in the Australian economy.

“The Rudd Government is taking practical steps through its Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan to cushion the impact of the global financial crisis by supporting jobs in the construction sector,” Ms Rishworth said.

“These infrastructure projects show the Australian, state and territory and local governments working together in partnership.

“In addition, there is the important social benefit of providing more affordable housing to people who need it the most.”