

Housing projects valued at \$20m

LODDON Mallee Housing Services has unveiled details of projects worth nearly \$20 million across the state.

The Bendigo-based, not-for-profit organisation says it is building on its reputation of providing quality affordable housing for low-to-moderate income earners, with projects planned for Geelong, Warrnambool and Croydon.

LMHS, Victoria's first registered affordable housing association, will use its expertise and experience gained in this region in the past 14 years to deliver, develop and manage more than 50 new affordable houses in other parts of the state.

The bulk of the funding for these projects comes from the State Government via the Federal Government's Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan.

Deputy CEO Trudi McClure said LMHS was leading the way in delivering on the State Government's new strategy for housing people on low incomes.

A series of medium-density projects in Geelong worth \$10 million are scheduled to start construction

this year, with more awaiting funding approval.

LMHS also has plans to build 28 properties in Warrnambool for a total cost of \$7.9 million, and seven units in Croydon for \$1.8 million.

"Everyone deserves to have a roof over their head, and we look forward to continuing to play a key role in making that a reality for those who need it most," Ms McClure said.

"In addition to providing much-needed housing, jobs will be secured and that's good news for builders in these areas and their communities."

Earlier this week, Warrnambool City Council supported the proposed transfer of ownership of 13 tenancies to LMHS. This adds to the seven houses LMHS already manages.

"Recent changes to the State Government's Housing Provider Framework mean the direct management of this type of accommodation should be delivered by a registered housing association or provider," Ms McClure said.

These new tenancies will be managed from LMHS' new office in Geelong, which is due to open next week.