



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE

Wednesday 13 February, 2019

Social & affordable housing the key to ending homelessness

Lord Mayor Clover Moore and Member for Sydney Alex Greenwich MP today welcomed the Premier's commitment to targets to reduce street sleeping in Sydney, but called on the State Government to urgently provide more social and affordable housing in the inner city.

The State Government today announced its commitment to halving street homelessness in NSW by 2025 and entered into an agreement with the City of Sydney and the Institute of Global Homelessness.

Lord Mayor Clover Moore said she welcomed the State Government's commitment to targets, but that the only way to achieve them is to provide more social and affordable housing in the inner city.

"While homelessness is a State Government responsibility, the City has been working to help people sleeping rough in the city for over 30 years. In our experience, the single most significant driver of homelessness in our city is the lack of social and affordable housing.

"Less than one percent of houses and apartments built in Sydney in the past eight years are affordable. Without urgent action to provide housing in the inner city, the efforts of this initiative will simply not work.

"The state government could act immediately to address this problem by reopening the Sirius building and increasing the number of social and affordable homes in the proposed Waterloo Estate and Metro Quarter Developments."

Member for Sydney Alex Greenwich said:

"Homelessness in NSW needs urgent attention, and the setting of this target and signing of this agreement kick starts vital action.

"People are homeless because we don't have enough safe and affordable housing in NSW. We also need to shift our focus and spending from short term temporary crisis housing to supported transitional care with a permanent housing pathway."

The City of Sydney has signed a memorandum of understanding to work with the State Government and the Institute of Global Homelessness to progress the targets, providing \$100,000 in seed funding to St Vincent De Paul Society NSW to set up the institute's headquarters in Sydney.

The Institute of Global Homelessness is committed to ending street homelessness in cities around the world through partnerships with local, national and regional organisations.

For all media enquiries, please contact Matthew Phillips.

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Video assets will be available shortly after at: <http://bit.ly/homelessnessresponse>