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**COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD AND HORIZON HOUSING JOIN FORCES TO ADDRESS AUSTRALIA’S HOUSING CRISIS**

***--Integration consolidates CHL’s position as the largest NFP housing provider in Australia –***

Australian not for profit housing provider Community Housing Limited (CHL) today announced the integration of Horizon Housing, Queensland’s largest housing provider into the CHL Group of Companies providing CHL with a strong advantage in Queensland to deliver more affordable housing in the State.

Over the next year this integration will drive growth for the two organisations so that more Australians who are facing housing crisis are able to secure long-term affordable housing.

The integration will boost CHL’s current portfolio to over 11,000 properties by November, making it the largest community housing provider in the country. The combined group will manage community and affordable housing properties across the six states with nearly 300 staff delivering services to support those most disadvantaged.

The new arrangement will consolidate expertise and strengthen the reach and services offered by both community housing providers. It will allow both the organisations to utilise their complementary strengths and drive efficiencies, reducing costs and releasing revenue to access more finance to build more homes and improve the quality of services to customers.

Horizon Housing, Queensland’s largest housing provider with operations in fifteen local government areas across Queensland and parts of New South Wales, provides both community housing programs and affordable housing projects and has over 2,400 properties in its portfolio, all of which will now benefit from the expansion of services and increased resources available via CHL.

“This new arrangement further strengthens the position of both organisations, providing each with mutually beneficial outcomes aligned to our shared vision of providing the communities we serve with affordable housing solutions that are available and accessible by those in need,” Community Housing Limited Group’s, Managing Director, Steve Bevington, said.

“Our collaboration is an exciting development for the sector and redefines the landscape, we look forward to drawing on this strengthened position to deliver future affordable housing solutions as the housing crisis across the country escalates,” Mr Bevington said.

For 25 years, CHL has long been considered a sector leader, supporting and growing the industry both locally and internationally, providing end to end affordable housing developments and long term housing and tenancy management operations in Australia.

“Horizon’s integration within the CHL Group is another step in that direction”, adds Steve.

CEO of Horizon Housing, Jason Cubit, said the organisation is excited to be part of the CHL group of companies.

“The integration of Horizon Housing and CHL is an exciting new chapter, as it allows us to pool the expertise and resources critical to improving the lives of the most vulnerable members of the community,” said Mr Cubit.

“Our initiatives don’t only help families get by in the short-term but empower them to break the cycle of financial stress, aiding a transition into the private rental or property market,” he said.

The integration of the two entities creates a powerful alliance to fight the problem recently highlighted by the latest Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot, which categorised three out of 67,365 rental properties listed in Australia as “affordable” for a single person on Newstart Allowance.

Horizon Housing and its subsidiaries will maintain business as usual for the foreseeable future, delivering quality services to Queensland’s most vulnerable, whilst retaining all current governance structures, branding and staffing.

**About Community Housing Limited (CHL):**

CHL is a national not for profit provider of community and affordable housing to those disadvantaged through market failure. In Australia, the Group manages over 6,800 properties across six states through its extensive network of 25 offices. It also develops affordable housing overseas and has offices in Timor Leste, Chile, PNG, Rwanda, Peru and India.

CHL’s service offering is diverse from providing pathways out of homelessness to crisis, transitional and long term housing, property development, tenancy and property management and community development to a wide cohort of people in need.

*From November, an additional 1,400 properties will be managed by CHL in the mid north coast areas of Port Macquarie, Kempsey, Nambucca and surrounding areas as part of the Social Housing Management Transfer Program by the State Government.* [www.chl.org.au](http://www.chl.org.au)

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**About Horizon Housing:**

Horizon Housing is one of Australia’s largest community housing providers, delivering high-quality sustainable housing solutions ranging from subsidised rental accommodation to home ownership. Horizon encourages long term tenure by being affordable, well located, energy-efficient, and designed to be adaptable to the changing needs of clients.

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