



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NEW LOCAL INITIATIVES TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS**

With an investment of up to \$10 million statewide, the NSW Government is inviting non-government organisations to develop innovative supported temporary accommodation models with the goal of reducing homelessness in the Murrumbidgee Family and Community Services District (which incorporates the Albury electorate).

Minister for Social Housing Pru Goward announced the third and final stage of an Expression of Interest will open today.

Under the EOI, up to \$10 million will be re-directed from low cost motels and made available to non-government organisations to provide supported temporary accommodation.

Ms Goward said the supported temporary accommodation EOI has already led to a dramatic increase in the provision of supported temporary accommodation in other areas across NSW.

“We recognise that homelessness is a complex issue and there is no “one size fits all” solution. That’s why this is one of a range of supports available in NSW to support people at risk of or experiencing homelessness,” Ms Goward said.

“We are asking non-government organisations to provide supported temporary accommodation services which will link these people to the assistance they need.”

The third stage of the rollout covers the Northern NSW, Mid North Coast, Western Sydney and Nepean-Blue Mountains, Murrumbidgee and Western NSW FACS Districts.

Under the supported temporary accommodation model, people experiencing homelessness are assisted with accommodation and services which address the underlying reasons which led to them becoming homeless.

“Every community is affected by homelessness and this initiative will support more people to find stable accommodation and reduce homelessness in regional areas.”

In 2016-17, the NSW Government provided more than 24,800 clients state-wide with access to temporary accommodation.

This critical service reduces homelessness by providing immediate access to a safe place for people who may be temporarily without housing.

Today’s announcement comes on the back of a record investment of \$1.1 billion to support people experiencing homelessness and improve services for social housing tenants to help break disadvantage.

Anyone at risk of or experiencing homelessness should call Link2home on 1800 152 152.

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