Media release

Monday, 24 July 2023

**NEW CEO APPOINTED FOR HOMES VICTORIA**

A new leadership team has been appointed to oversee the delivery of social housing and homelessness services in Victoria.

Simon Newport has been named the new Chief Executive Officer of Homes Victoria and Dannii de Kretser, the new Deputy CEO.

Mr Newport comes to the department from the NSW Land and Housing Corporation where, as CEO, he managed Australia’s largest social housing portfolio of 125,000 properties, providing a home to more than 300,000 people each night. He has more than 30 years’ experience in both the public and private sectors, including more than nine years with NSW’s Aboriginal Housing Office.

He will lead the delivery of social housing – including the state’s landmark $5.3 billion Big Housing Build – and the funding of housing and homelessness assistance throughout the state.

“I’m excited to work with a great team at Homes Victoria to continue to ensure we house as many people as possible as quickly as we can across the state,” Mr Newport said.

“With people experiencing housing pressures right across Australia, the quality and innovation of our social housing and homelessness programs remains vital to ensure safe and secure housing for Victorians in need.”

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Secretary Peta McCammon said Mr Newport would be a great fit and had an extensive knowledge of and a passion for social and affordable housing.

“I’m delighted we’ve secured a leader with Simon’s capability, experience, and passion for social housing, demonstrated most recently where he led the NSW Land and Housing Corporation and delivered more homes, upgrades and jobs for people in NSW including the Aboriginal community in NSW,” Ms McCammon said.

Ms de Kretser has deep expertise in complex social policy contexts across housing, community services and education. Most recently she was a client partner supporting digital transformation at consulting firm Publicis Sapient, and she was previously Acting Deputy Secretary and Associate Deputy Secretary Youth Justice at the Department of Justice and Community Safety. She will bring a people and communities first approach to the role, having started her career supporting public housing communities.

Mr Newport and Ms de Krester will begin with the department on 31 July.