The Hon Rose Jackson MLC Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, Minister for the North Coast



Friday 18 August 2023

Important update on Waterloo South

Dear Resident,

I am writing to you to provide an update on the Waterloo Renewal Project, I know this has been a long process and it can be very unsettling for many residents.

Your local Member has been clear to the NSW Government about the importance of the community being at the front and centre as we communicate what this project means for you and I agree – **you are my priority**.

I know there is a lot of information going around and this can add to the uncertainty you may be feeling about your home.

We want to be really open and transparent about this process and ensure we are giving residents clear information.

As I'm sure you're aware we are planning to renew the Waterloo Estate, starting with the first stage of the project, Waterloo South (*see map below*).

NSW is in the midst of a housing crisis, and to make good on our commitment to addressing it we need to increase the number of homes, particularly social and affordable.

In response to this we are increasing the number of social and affordable homes in Waterloo South to 50% (30% social and 20% affordable). This will see around 500 more social and affordable homes than would have been delivered under the plan put forward by the previous government.

We will also be dedicating a minimum of 15% of all new social and affordable homes for Aboriginal people- working towards closing the housing gap and achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal people.

We don't want you to feel left in the dark through this process, in fact we value your feedback and want to hear from you so we will be on the ground and actively reaching out in the community to make this happen.

Part of this plan includes opening a dedicated on-site office in the near future, providing project updates and information via letters, texts and phone calls as well as holding regular community events where we can talk directly with our residents.

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Important information for you:

- Tenants are NOT being asked to move yet. You do not need to do anything right now.
- The renewal will be conducted in stages to minimise disruption as much as possible and once complete all residents will have the right to return to the Waterloo Estate.
- We want to give plenty of notice and support to residents during this process. All residents will be supported by a dedicated relocations officer to help find them a suitable home that meets their individual housing needs.
- We know how important community is and residents will be given the opportunity to stay in the local area if they wish to.
- Residents will be given six months' notice before you are required to relocate. You will be supported through the relocations process which is expected to begin in mid-2024.
- Again, once the re-development is complete ALL residents will be offered a right to return to the Waterloo estate. It is your right to be able to return home once the development is complete.
- The proposed redevelopment plan only impacts *Waterloo South* not the entire estate. I have attached a map below.

As I said you are our priority. I know you deserve better when it comes to being kept up to date and consulted throughout this process. So expect to hear a lot more from me.

We are with you on this journey, we support you and we respect your voice and ideas.

If you have any questions or feedback please contact Carrey Cultra, Community Engagement Manager, on 1800 738 718 or email CommunityEngagement@facs.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Rose Jackson Minister for Housing



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