

## **SENATOR DAVID FEENEY**

## Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Labor Senator for Victoria

## MR NICK CHAMPION MP Federal Member for Wakefield

FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011

## **NEW DEFENCE HOUSING FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, Senator David Feeney, and Federal Member for Wakefield, Mr Nick Champion today turned a sod for 430 new Defence housing units at RAAF Base Edinburgh.

"The Labor Gillard Government is investing about \$89 million in this new housing for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel," Senator Feeney said.

"Our ADF personnel deserve the best living facilities. These new buildings will not only create jobs in South Australia, but deliver on one of Labor's election commitments to improve accommodation for our diggers," Senator Feeney said.

Local MP Nick Champion said: "It is estimated that the local contractor will employ approximately 300 people over the next two years. This is great news for local jobs and the South Australian economy."

Each of the 430 self contained and furnished units contains a kitchenette, internet and phone connections, a personal balcony and an ensuite.

The facility will also include car parking, secure storage space, BBQ and recreation facilities.

This new housing is part of Defence's Project Single Living Environment and Accommodation Precinct (LEAP) program, a significant infrastructure program which will deliver up to 6,400 individual self-contained accommodation units at Defence establishments across Australia.

Project Single LEAP Phase 1 delivered 1,395 units in December 2008 in Brisbane and Sydney. Phase 2 will deliver a further 3,015 units across fourteen Defence sites.

The program operates under a Public Private Partnership arrangement with Plenary Living.

Plenary's builder for this site is Built Environs Pty Ltd.

More than \$770 million has been injected into the South Australian economy through recent Defence building projects, including the Hardened and Networked Army project, Stage 2 of the Edinburgh Redevelopment and the Enhanced Land Forces project.

Images of designs for the buildings can be found at: <a href="http://www.defence.gov.au/id/sla/images\_Sl2.htm">http://www.defence.gov.au/id/sla/images\_Sl2.htm</a>

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