



## Department of Human Services

Incorporating: Health, Community Services, Mental Health, Senior Victorians and Housing

Kew Residential Services  
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Dear Resident

As you may be aware, in 2001 a decision was made to embark on a journey that would improve the lives of residents at the then Kew Cottages site.

When the plans for the redevelopment were first announced, the Government said "there is not one group of people in our community with a disability and then the rest of us. There is one community and we are all equal partners".

Since then, over 360 people have moved from the old units at KRS to 73 homes in the community, staffed to meet their needs. They and their relatives are overwhelmingly satisfied with the much improved quality of life they can now enjoy.

With the completion of Stages 1a, b and c of Main Kew Drive the lives of the remaining 100 KRS residents and their families and friends entered a new and exciting chapter last Sunday, 20 April, when residents officially moved into their wonderful new homes on the former Kew Cottages site.

The occasion was marked by a welcome celebration attended by more than 200 people. The joy and laughter that dominated the day made what has been a long and eventful journey all the more worthwhile.

For all of us at KRS – staff and residents alike – the completion of this stage of the development is the last phase of the journey towards better lives for all of the people who lived in KRS in 2001.

The new neighbourhood being developed at Main Drive Kew provides the last 100 ex-KRS residents with quality accommodation and services that meets their needs and allows them to live in a beautiful, socially inclusive environment.

When complete, the redevelopment will allow residents and the general public to enjoy extensive open space that includes parkland and a network of pedestrian and bike trails connecting to adjacent Yarra Bend Park.

Although this is a time of excitement, the move into their new homes also means a period of adjustment for the former KRS residents particularly as they begin to engage in the life and activities of the area.

Please join me in warmly welcoming all Main Drive Kew residents to their new neighbourhood – those who used to live in KRS and those who have bought new homes on the site.

Yours sincerely



Manager  
Kew Residential Services Redevelopment

For further information about the Kew Residential Services project please log on to  
<http://www.majorprojects.vic.gov.au> or  
[http://nps718.dhs.vic.gov.au/ds/disabilitysite.nsf/sectiontwo/kew\\_redev\\_intro?open](http://nps718.dhs.vic.gov.au/ds/disabilitysite.nsf/sectiontwo/kew_redev_intro?open)