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Fire Safety Focus At Hume Properties in Telopea NSW

As part of Hume Community Housing's day to day operations we take many steps to consider the safety of our customers in their homes. When required we are extra diligent in our duty of care and take additional steps to ensure the safety of our customers. As such Hume is undertaking detailed audits of fire risks across its property portfolio. Hume has, for over 30 years, had an ethos of focusing on our customer's health and wellbeing.

Hume CEO Nicola Lemon said that three buildings in Telopea – 1 Shortland Street, 3 Shortland Street and 15 Sturt Street - could contain external wall cladding that may need to be removed to meet updated building code regulations.

Following notification by the NSW Government's Fire Safety and External Wall Cladding Taskforce and initial investigation by Hume. Further detailed investigations into potential concerns with three of our properties in Telopea are now occurring.

"I want to assure our customers that there are already premium fire safety mechanisms and measures in place that are regularly checked and appropriately maintained," Ms Lemon said.

"Our buildings are fitted with a range of safety measures to reduce fire risk, including alarms, fire hoses and hydrants, these mechanical measures are supported by active communication with our customers about fire safety, including whole of building practice fire drills."

Like many other property owners, Hume received notification by the NSW Government's Fire Safety and External Wall Cladding Taskforce to conduct an investigation.

"We have also taken immediate steps to increase fire safety levels at these three properties while we conduct further thorough inspections of the buildings and determine the next steps," Ms Lemon said.





The additional measures include:

- Security guards patrolling the properties 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Increased communication with customers about fire safety measures.
- Changes to some of the materials used in the gardens to improve fire safety around the buildings.
- Temporary closure of BBQ areas.

In communications with our customers we that they take the following actions:

- Do not have BBQs on your balcony
- Remove any flammable items and furniture from your balcony
- Take extra care if choosing to smoke on your balcony
- Do not throw any flammable items, or any other items from the balcony.

A number of Community Information Sessions will take place which our customers are encouraged to attend.

- Wednesday 14 March 2018 5pm-7pm 15 Sturt Street
- Thursday 15 March 2018 11am-1pm 3 Shortland Street
- Saturday 17 March 2018 10am-12pm 3 Shortland Street

Ms Lemon said Hume would work closely with the community to minimise any disruption, while maintaining safety for all customers.

“We encourage our customers to come along to the community meetings or get in touch with us if they have any concerns,” she said.

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