



Merger: Crisis and affordable housing boost

House-warming



NEW BOSS: Ian Clunn is CHL Wide Bay manager and Queensland representative.

PHOTO: VALERIE HORTON

Hannah Busch

A NEW partnership between Fraser Coast Housing Limited and Victorian not-for-profit group Community Housing Limited could lead to more crisis and affordable accommodation across Hervey Bay and Maryborough.

The merger was officially announced yesterday at a special event

at the Brolga Theatre.

FCHL CEO Ian Clunn will stay on as the new CHL Wide Bay manager and Queensland representative.

Mr Clunn said the partnership meant FCHL would be able to put its focus on supplying housing, rather than administration, and had the potential to allow FCHL to build homes.

He said the demand

for affordable accommodation and its homelessness program far outstripped the supply.

“We have more people coming to us than we can really help,” he said.

Mr Clunn said the company wanted to position itself to partner with the State Government ahead of its 2020 Housing Vision policy, which calls for 90% of social housing across the

state to be managed by the private sector.

“We will have to compete in a strong tender process,” he said. “We’re well placed now.”

Queensland Housing Minister Tim Mander, MP Anne Maddern and members of Fraser Coast Regional Council were at the Brolga Theatre yesterday for the announcement.