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2 May 2024

\$4m MMC research and development project to increase NSW social housing

Building 4.0 CRC and the New South Wales Government will announce this morning (2 May 2024) a \$4 million Research and Development program harnessing modern methods of construction (MMC) to increase medium density social housing supply.

The NSW Government has committed \$2 million for the program, matched with a \$2 million contribution from Building 4.0 CRC, an industry-led research initiative funded by the Australian Government.

The landmark research will prove-up new ways to build homes and include a series of prototypes and medium density social housing projects built using MMC where residents, industry, and the community can experience first-hand those buildings created.

CEO of Building 4.0 CRC Professor Mathew Aitchison said: "This milestone research will generate strategies and methods to utilise MMC in Homes NSW projects and involve leading researchers from industry and universities across the eastern seaboard.

"MMC is a critical lever to pull to intensify housing supply and needs to run alongside traditional onsite construction to increase housing.

"Offsite manufacturing and productised building approaches deliver certainty, safety and higher quality design and sustainability outcomes," Prof Aitchison said.

"We have deep MMC expertise and innovation locally that we can grow and we will be working closely with the local manufacturing industry to scale and upskill.

"To invest in Research and Development is to invest in future solutions and right now must be fiercely focused on growing capacity and productivity.

"The CRC commends the NSW Government for investing in long term solutions that complement a range a shorter term initiatives.

"The proof of concept prototypes created in this research program gives people the opportunity to see, feel and experience these innovations first hand."

Minister for Housing and Homelessness Rose Jackson said the NSW Government is proud to partner with Building 4.0 CRC to pioneer new approaches in construction.

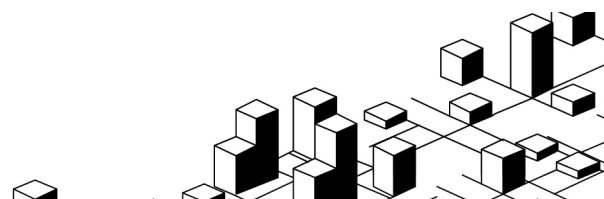
"This collaboration marks a crucial milestone in our efforts to address the pressing need for more social housing in NSW," Ms Jackson said.

"By investing in innovative construction methods, we're not only increasing housing supply but also ensuring that our communities have access to safe and sustainable homes, Ms Jackson said.



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

AusIndustry
Cooperative Research
Centres Program





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"Innovative initiatives like the MMC program are essential as we strive to meet the diverse housing needs of our residents, and by embracing cutting-edge technology and collaboration, we're building a stronger, more resilient housing sector for generations to come."

The Homes NSW MMC Program with Building 4.0 CRC will be conducted over the next 24 months.

The support of the Commonwealth of Australia through the Cooperative Research Centre Programme is acknowledged.

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About Building 4.0 CRC [Building 4.0 CRC — Building the future \(building4pointzero.org\)](https://www.building4pointzero.org)

Building 4.0 CRC is a research initiative co-funded by industry partners and the Australian Government. It is tasked with the job of revolutionising how buildings are designed, constructed, and operated to build faster, safer, more sustainably and at a lower cost. With the housing crisis and cost of living pressures escalating, the work of the CRC has never been more important.

Building 4.0 CRC's focuses on four research areas: industrialisation, digitalisation, sustainability, and people practices and culture, with a particular drive to create significant demonstration projects where industry, government and the community can experience first-hand those buildings created or retrofitted using innovation and new methods of construction.

Now in its fourth year (of seven), Building 4.0 CRC is working with industry and governments to achieve an 80% reduction in construction waste; 50% cut in CO2 emissions and a 30% decrease in production costs through the development of a more industrialised approach to building. It is also targeting the training of 7,000 apprentices in preparation for the new ways we will build in the future, and the development of an internationally competitive, dynamic and thriving Australian advanced manufacturing sector focussed on building.

To date, Building 4.0 CRC has been involved in 60 collaborative research projects, either active or completed, with another 40 in the pipeline.



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