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## **Garden Village construction project adds to regional opportunities**

Following the erection of a tower crane earlier this month, *Leslie Williams*, MP for Port Macquarie and Parliamentary Secretary for Regional and Rural Health; and *Peta Pinson*, Mayor Port Macquarie Hastings Council viewed the Garden Village development today congratulating Garden Village and Watpac on the impressive progress of the project and look forward to seeing a finished product in 2018.

Andrew Walmsley, Deputy Chairperson of Garden Village, confirmed that the development provides a unique and exciting opportunity for Garden Village to add to the existing retirement living options provided to residents of the Hastings with this premier development.

"The development provides additional options for Hastings residents that are seeking added peace of mind regarding their ongoing care and support with onsite aged care services", Mr Walmsley said.

Leslie Williams added that "Being able to offer different levels of care through apartments like we see here being developed by Garden Village is critically important. We know that our ageing population want to age in place, in their own home, caring for themselves for as long as they possibly can and this sort of development means we can provide a range of residential options to our seniors..

Both Leslie Williams and Peta Pinson were also impressed with the large number of local contractors associated with the project with over 90% of contractors from within the local area.

"90% of local people being used on this building site is what we want to continue to see and when other investors come to Port Macquarie they see what's happening here at Garden Village. This is really good for the whole economy; its telling people clearly, when they see cranes in the sky; when they see people working on a construction site, that this is a great place to invest in and as a state government we want to make sure that we can continue to reap that, particularly in our regional communities like Port Macquarie" Leslie Williams said.

Peta Pinson and Craig Wearne General Manager of Garden Village agreed on the positive impacts this type of project has on local growth and development. Mr Wearne said, " As one of the largest employers in Port Macquarie, this type of development facilitates growth and employment opportunities for all in the area".

The impressive onsite tower crane stands 35 meters high providing a preview of the top floor views the residents will enjoy over the Port Macquarie and Hastings area. In excess of 600 cubic meters of concrete has also been poured on the ground floor deck and

represents one of the largest single concrete pours in Port Macquarie's construction history.

Mr Wearne confirmed that the project remains on track for completion in July 2018 and that Garden Village look forward to the 52 unit complex becoming occupied and the residents enjoying all that this premium development will provide, including a restaurant, coffee shop, specially designed gymnasium, community centre and activity rooms that will be tailored for residents' specific activities.

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**For further information:** General Manager, Garden Village- Craig Wearne on 02 6583 8918 or 0428 086 376

**Note to editors:** Garden Village Port Macquarie, a not for profit community organisation, is a premier Aged Care and Retirement Living provider with 40 years of care and support experience in the Hastings area. More information is available at [www.gardenvillage.com.au](http://www.gardenvillage.com.au).