

High-tech solution for social housing

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A revolutionary building technology which can erect prefabricated homes in four to 10 days has been picked up by the State Government as part of its efforts to boost social housing.

The Department of Communities has given Canning Vale-based building company NXT TEC its first commercial contract, signing it up to build four social housing properties in Ellenbrook with its revolutionary technology.

NXT TEC claims it can erect prefabricated steel and concrete homes using its 13 pieces of patented technology which lock together like a giant Lego set.

The precast building technology company is waiting for a building permit to start work on the four properties, including two with three bedrooms and one bathroom, which cost \$245,000 each. A further two homes with four bedrooms and two bathrooms have a contract price of \$300,000 each.

Chairwoman and managing director Natasha Di Ciano, pictured, said the company hoped to expand its contract to build social housing.

Ms Di Ciano said while it would take only a few days to erect the prefabricated homes onsite, further time was needed for site works, which had already started on the Ellenbrook blocks. She said it would take about three months to complete



the internal fit-out, landscaping and other parts of a turnkey project.

The homes — the first residential homes using the revolutionary technology — should be finished by Christmas.

The four-to-six-month total build time was well below the years it was taking in the traditional construction market, Ms Di Ciano said.

She said the homes had a seven-star Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme rating and met new design guidelines.

“By prioritising the utilisation of precast, locally sourced materials and suppliers, we are paving the way for a more sustainable future for the building industry in Western Australia,” Ms Di Ciano said. The company is waiting for a permit to build a 10-level luxury hotel in Rivervale, to be operated by Resort Management by Wyndham after completion in 2025.