

# Housing crunch

**HUNDREDS** more families are in crisis after public housing waiting lists shot up by another 1000 applicants.

There are now almost 40,000 applicants hoping for public housing in the state.

The waiting lists hit a seven-year high for the June quarter and in the past year there has been an increase of more than 3600 applicants.

The Government says it has begun a major housing project to get about 6500 new public houses on the market.

The Opposition says the system is in crisis and that by the time new places are built thousands more people will have reached crisis point.

Housing Minister Richard Wynne said the sector was under pressure from high rents and low vacancies.