





Overview

The term 'Meanwhile Use' originates from the UK where it was used to describe vacant land and building that could be used for commercial use or cultural and community development purposes. Other terms include 'Pop-up' and temporary use...

Key features:

- Commercial use in the first instance
- Can provide medium term housing by utilising points in the development cycle of land, where housing may otherwise sit vacant
- Housing briefly situated on empty or unused land
- Temporary use of existing structures to provide housing



In practice ...

Potential for short-term affordable housing

- Clear target groups?
- Engaging landowners, identifying desirable features for sites
- Reviewing planning requirements and identifying financing approaches
- Innovation in design and construction, including modular and prefabricated units

Short-term accommodation for vulnerable people

- Cannot be delivered without sufficient supports in place
- Requires an ongoing focus on the future
- Not a replacement for Housing First – where a long-term approach is better
- Requires a shared commitment and trust between all parties



Examples

- TOGA partnership with My Foundations Youth Housing – Addison Hotel; pop-up accommodation for vulnerable youth
- Pathways Home – PAYCE, Bridge, WCS; Temporary housing for women and children exiting crisis accommodation
- Launch Housing – various projects including pop-up homelessness accommodation and 'meanwhile use' delivering 57 prefabricated units across nine parcels of land in Melbourne's inner west (with VicRoads and the DHHS)
- CasPA care project for women over 55 years
- Commercial leases program – Government properties managed by CHPs 'meanwhile use' while development plans are finalised
- Other emerging projects