



Speech by


Hon. Campbell Newman

MEMBER FOR ASHGROVE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Social Housing; Open Data

 **Hon. CKT NEWMAN** (Ashgrove—LNP) (Premier) (2.23 pm): As members have heard before, the Labor government left a legacy of more than 30,000 households or families on the waiting list for social housing. It also left a number of properties underoccupied while more than 4,000 applicants with very high needs languished on that list. Today, I am proud to announce that two vital pieces of information have been released by this government through our open data initiative. The housing register and the list of social housing stock were documents that received top-secret protection by the previous Labor government. In contrast, the Newman government is committed to ensuring that those lists finally see the light of day.

The data has value as a social policy and information tool for a variety of not-for-profit, charitable and religious organisations. Knowing the location and concentration of social housing unit data can assist organisations to provide goods and services to needy Queenslanders and to plan their services to the best and most effective use. The data can also assist in assessing the likely need for a range of support services in communities. The housing register waiting list may assist counselling services to provide advice and information to high and very high needs people who are seeking accommodation to escape homelessness.

Open data will allow the creation of innovative solutions to address the issues facing our community. The government plays an important role in coordinating and guiding solutions to problems, but a lot of the best practice in innovation comes from partnerships with the community and corporate sectors. Open data will allow those sectors to have access to valuable information that will assist them in targeting their programs and developing specific responses. It will ensure that government funds are used as a priority in the areas of greatest need.