




Speech by
Jo-Ann Miller

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Hansard Thursday, 2 August 2012

MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS

 **Mrs MILLER** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.50 pm): This afternoon I rise to bring to the attention of the House the actions of the worst landlord in the country—'Landlord Minister' Dr Flegg. On 13 June 2012—50 days ago—the minister announced a bold new plan to reform public housing in Queensland to free up rooms in houses by 'adopting a compassionate view', as outlined in his letter, and I table that letter.

Tabled paper: Pro forma letter, undated, from the Hon. Dr Flegg, Minister for Housing and Public Works, addressed 'Dear tenant' [\[661\]](#).

How does sending a letter to a 76-year-old invalid grandmother in Inala stating that a department initiative transfer would occur amount to compassion? How does axing Tenant Advice and Advocacy Service programs, like in Ipswich, which support thousands of individuals through local community based advocacy support services at a time when people are faced with massive upheaval in their lives amount to compassion? How does placing current long-term residents like Constance Dailey of Inala on a three-year lease, providing her with less stability and causing her to live her life in fear knowing that she can be moved on at any time, amount to compassion? How does sending a letter to residents at the Monte Carlo Caravan Park at Cannon Hill, the Woombye Gardens Caravan Park at Woombye and the Lazy Acres Caravan Park at Torquay, displacing hundreds and hundreds of residents on to the streets without a place to go, amount to compassion? I table a copy of the letter sent to the people at the caravan park by the cruel, cold and callous 'Landlord Minister' Dr Flegg.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 27 July 2012, from Ms Natalie McDonald, Director-General, Department of Housing and Public Works, addressed 'Dear resident' [\[662\]](#).

Government members interjected.

Mrs MILLER: I visited Monte Carlo Caravan Park residents yesterday, who were clearly devastated and in shock at the letter they had received.

Government members interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order! I call the member for Bundamba.

Mrs MILLER: Thank you for your protection, Madam Deputy Speaker. One elderly resident collapsed due to the minister's actions and was taken away by ambulance. Many of these people have spent hundreds and thousands of dollars modernising their properties and making them their castle. Those opposite have been in government for over 100 days and they have already lost touch with the Queensland community. As 'Landlord Minister' Dr Flegg buys a \$1.2 million investment unit, thousands of Queenslanders live in fear of where they are going to live, and I table the *Sunday Mail* article.

Tabled paper: Article from the Sunday Mail, dated 22 July 2012, titled 'He'll take Manhattan ... as his department prepares to punt Miriam from home of 39 years' [\[663\]](#).

Coupled with this was the minister's statement on Seven News last night in relation to selling off government owned caravan parks, stating, 'They aren't really an asset. They are a liability.' The minister does not think that people's homes in a caravan park, such as Esther Mellows who has lived in the caravan park for 36 years, are assets but merely liabilities. People are never liabilities—only to the cruel, callous and cold LNP government. But the Premier—

(Time expired)