



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 July 2015

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Social Housing**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Science and Innovation) (10.11 am): As the Treasurer said, the Palaszczuk government's budget is a budget for people. We believe that vulnerable Queenslanders such as those in need of social housing are more than just parties to a lease agreement, which is how the previous LNP government treated them. Across Queensland, over \$312 million will be invested in housing for some of our most vulnerable community members.

This government has committed more than \$183 million in capital works, upgrading existing properties, purchasing others and constructing and completing hundreds of other dwellings. These include funding to commence construction of 274 rental units, complete construction of 258 rental units and purchase 32 rental units. I can also advise the House that some of Queensland's most marginalised communities will also benefit from the state budget, with an additional \$190 million allocated for social housing in Indigenous communities. This will allow construction to commence on 60 rental units, complete the construction of 207 others and also upgrade some of our existing social housing stock in these communities.

Throughout this financial year, we will also continue to deliver on our election commitments, including re-establishing a tenant advice and advocacy service. After the LNP abolished the previous tenant advice and advocacy service, tenants were left without an independent body to provide advice and support services in an area where disputes can be complex, confusing and intimidating. We already have an interim phone service up and running but re-establishing the full service will help tenants navigate their way through the tenancy market and help them know their rights and obligations.

We will also continue work on re-establishing a dedicated plumbing industry regulatory body within the broader statewide construction industry regulator. We will undertake a review of security of payment laws for subcontractors, and we are finalising the review of social policies to ensure fairness.

As Minister for Housing, I intend to restore dignity to people who need our support and return Housing to its rightful place, that of a human service. The Palaszczuk government understands that for people to have good health outcomes, good education outcomes and good employment opportunities, the basics such as housing need to be addressed first.