




Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Social Housing

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.54 pm): I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk Labor government, which has created 94,500 jobs including more local jobs in Greenslopes. Skilling Queenslanders for Work and the Back to Work boost program are supporting small businesses and community organisations to create more local jobs. The \$800 million investment in TAFE is creating more local jobs. Putting nurses, teachers, police and child safety workers back to work is creating more local jobs. Of course, our investment in infrastructure such as Cross River Rail and the \$200 million investment in schools is creating more local jobs. The Queensland Housing Strategy, which is building over 5,000 residences for those in greatest need in our society, is also creating more local jobs.

Social housing is essential to ensuring vulnerable people do not fall through the cracks of our society. I meet great people who live in social housing—people who live decent, meaningful lives and make meaningful contributions. Many have had challenges in their lives. I recently met a man of my age who had spent the past 10 years living on the streets, mainly due to mental illness. Social housing gave him the stability to deal with his mental health issues, join a local support group and become a regular user of the local library. Not far from him I met a young mum who had been able to bring her two children together under one roof, enrol them in local schools and start a part-time job. I love the Buranda housing garden competition. I really enjoyed dropping over to Laura's unit in Holland Park to have a cup of tea in the garden that she and her neighbours care for.

When I meet these wonderful people who are part of our community, who are living dignified and meaningful lives and who are contributing to our community, I wonder why my LNP opponent would distribute information that suggests that people who live in social housing are not part of our community, seek to scare people about the prospect of more social housing being built in my electorate and ostracise the people who live in social housing.

I am proud to be part of a government that is building more social housing, that is helping more people in our community. The Palaszczuk government is here to help people, whether that is providing support for business to get started, supporting farmers in times of drought, preventing the spread of diseases or providing housing. My local community has been built on the contributions of many people who live in social housing. I promise all of my constituents that I consider them part of my community—part of our community—and I will respect them and I will represent them.

At every opportunity the former LNP government worked to destroy social housing and a future LNP government would do the same. The local LNP candidate has shown his disdain for the people who live in social housing and will support, as he did in the past, more destructive LNP social housing policies. The Queensland Housing Strategy delivers more accessible and more affordable housing. It also boosts local employment. It is yet another way the Palaszczuk Labor government is delivering more local jobs.