



Speech By  
**Hon. Leanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 3 December 2020

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Social Housing**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (9.59 am): The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us all many things and helped us to understand just how important a sense of home is for all of us. In the face of great challenge, the communities that make up our state have continued to show their strength and resilience and because of our strong health response we are getting on with the job of recovery.

The 2020 budget delivers a job-creating economic recovery plan that also understands the importance of a secure and safe home. As announced in the budget, we will invest over \$526 million to deliver more safe, secure and affordable housing for Queenslanders. This investment continues on the delivery of this government's \$1.6 billion Housing Construction Jobs Program, which is the largest investment in social housing in Queensland since World War II. Recently we have supercharged that program by injecting \$100 million through our Works for Tradies boost. The budget will deliver the completion of a further 452 social homes, commence construction on a further 832 homes including 215 under the Works for Tradies boost, upgrade existing dwellings and purchase land for future construction. Importantly, our investment in this financial year alone will support more than 1,540 construction jobs across the state.

We are getting on with the job of delivering new social and affordable housing for vulnerable Queenslanders and supporting Queensland construction jobs through our 10-year Housing Strategy. I am pleased to share with the House that the Palaszczuk government has exceeded our first three-year target under the strategy, with 2,190 social and affordable housing projects already commenced. We have already completed and delivered 1,200 new homes across the state from the Gold Coast, out to Toowoomba and up to Cairns, putting us on track to deliver over 5,500 social housing and affordable homes by 2027.

The construction of new social housing forms an essential part of the Palaszczuk government's plan for Queensland's economic recovery, creating jobs, skills and public infrastructure. The benefits of the Palaszczuk government's social housing construction programs will continue to flow through Queensland's regional economies, creating jobs for years to come. The Palaszczuk government is delivering safe, secure and affordable homes for vulnerable Queenslanders in need while it supports jobs.