




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 20 February 2020

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Public Housing

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (2.37 pm): I rise to update the House on the complete mess that the Minister for Housing and Public Works has made of the public housing system. The opposition asked a couple of questions on notice late last year, and I table both of those questions on notice for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Response to question on notice No. 1953 asked on 28 November 2019 [317](#).

Tabled paper: Response to question on notice No. 1850 asked on 26 November 2019 [318](#).

One of those shows that when the LNP came to government in 2012—the only figure we have is from December onwards—there were 23,550 applications for public housing. We have to keep in mind that there may be three or four people involved in each of those, so there could be 100,000 people waiting for housing. By the time we left government in February 2015, that number had fallen by 7,076 to 16,474. What has this minister managed to do in the five years since he has been in power and controlling this? He has managed to push the applications out, as at 31 October last year, to 24,354. While the LNP got public housing figures down by over 7,000, the minister has pushed them up by 7,880.

In fact, the minister has overseen an increase in the very high need segment of public housing of over 1,100 applications—possibly 4,000 or 5,000 people—in the last two months of these figures alone. The other question on notice that I tabled shows the story about homelessness. Unfortunately the answer we received back only breaks it down into regions so I went to the dataset for homelessness and public housing and I broke it down from 30 June. The Gold Coast has 2,204 people on the high need and very high need waiting list and 768 who are homeless. I broke that down further into Burleigh and, just for interest, Currumbin. In Burleigh there are 64 people on the very high need or high need waiting list but in Currumbin there are 491 people on the very high need or high need waiting list. That is why we need a very good member down in Currumbin like Laura Gerber. On 28 March the people of Currumbin will get the opportunity to elect a member who can be part of an LNP government on 31 October that can fix this problem because quite clearly the Labor Party cannot fix this. It is incapable of taking care of the vulnerable people of Queensland. It will take a new LNP government to fix this problem.