



Speech By  
**Hon. Leanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 November 2021

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Housing and Homelessness**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (10.13 am): The Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025 is backed by a \$2.9 billion total housing investment—the largest concentrated investment in social and affordable housing in Queensland’s history—that will deliver more housing for vulnerable Queenslanders sooner. As part of this investment, we are providing \$11.5 million to enhance the Coordinated Housing and Homelessness Response in priority locations across the state to identify people experiencing homelessness and coordinate services for people with complex housing and support needs. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Coordinated Housing and Homelessness Response has assisted more than 4,247 households with emergency housing assistance, many of which have been assisted into longer term accommodation, including social housing and private rentals.

Importantly, my department is also working collaboratively with Queensland Health and the housing and homelessness sector to support the vaccination rollout strategy for public housing tenants and Queenslanders experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Vaccination is key to Queensland’s economic recovery. During the Greater Brisbane lockdowns earlier in the year, we worked with St Vincent de Paul and Micah Projects to vaccinate rough sleepers temporarily accommodated across three hotel sites. In October Micah Projects offered COVID-19 vaccinations at a social housing complex in Kangaroo Point. Micah staff doorknocked departmental properties in the surrounding area and invited tenants to come along and get vaccinated or ask any questions about being vaccinated. This work followed a successful pop-up clinic in Yeronga. Micah Projects has also established a vaccination clinic at West End which runs from 11 am to 2 pm every Friday until 17 December and at ChaplainWatch in Fortitude Valley which runs from 11 am to 2 pm every Tuesday until 14 December.

Micah is not the only one helping with this important vaccination work. I want to thank Brisbane Housing Co. which worked with Queensland Health to deliver a mobile vaccination clinic at one of its buildings in Yeronga last week. On the Gold Coast, the department has funded the Gold Coast Homelessness Network to employ a care coordination facilitator who is coordinating a vaccination strategy for rough sleepers. This position manages logistics for vaccination, including transport to the Ashwin medical centre for vaccinations. With vaccination being key to our economic recovery and uniting families for Christmas, my department, along with the housing and homelessness sector, is well and truly in the race to get Queenslanders vaccinated.