



Speech By  
**Hon. Leanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2022

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Brisbane Housing Company**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (9.58 am): I rise to advise the House on matters relating to the sale of a Kelvin Grove apartment complex by Brisbane Housing Company. I recognise and acknowledge it is an independent decision of the board. However, the Queensland government and Brisbane City Council are joint shareholders and we will work with BHC on how they engage with both state government and council.

At a time of obvious housing stress it is my expectation—and I dare say the expectation of Queenslanders—that the social and affordable housing sector pulls every lever at its disposal to retain existing properties and inject greater supply into the market. This is why my department deliberately paused its own business-as-usual strategic asset management strategy to respond to the pressures of the current market.

**Mr Mander** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The member for Everton will cease his interjections.

**Hon. LM ENOCH:** The Palaszczuk government is working tirelessly to provide more social housing outcomes for Queenslanders sooner. We are rolling out a \$2.9 billion investment to increase the social and affordable housing supply—the largest concentrated investment in Queensland's history. We have commenced 4,891 and completed 3,939 social and affordable homes since coming to government in 2015. We exceeded our first-year target under QuickStarts Qld of 727, commencing 832 new social homes. I am pleased to advise the House that as of 31 July 2022 we have commenced more than 900 new social and affordable homes under the QuickStarts Qld program.

We have launched our \$40 million Help to Home initiative, seeking 1,000 more housing solutions for vulnerable Queenslanders. We have delivered a new 40-unit youth foyer on the Gold Coast—an expansion to the Logan youth foyer—and we have commenced a new youth foyer in Townsville. We are delivering an almost \$14 million commitment to roll out the housing older women strategy, building new homes and delivering specialist support services for older women. We have invested \$166.3 million in specialist homelessness supports across Queensland in the 2022-23 budget.

On top of these measures, the government recently announced an investment of \$16 million through the Immediate Housing Response Package to support families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. It is the Palaszczuk government that is committed to more housing, more jobs, better services and to enhancing Queensland's great lifestyle.