



Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Housing

Hon. LM ENOCH (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (9.53 am): Last month the Premier hosted the Queensland Housing Summit, bringing local, state and federal levels of government together alongside industry and sector expertise to address our shared challenges. The summit brought together almost 200 attendees including people with lived experience, frontline service providers, community housing providers, the housing and construction industry, local governments and peak bodies. With their expertise and insights, we collectively identified the immediate housing challenges facing Queenslanders and charted a path forward together. The Queensland Housing Summit: outcomes report tabled by the Premier today builds on the work already underway through the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan and demonstrates to Queenslanders that we are a government that listens, acts and delivers.

Delivering for Queenslanders in need is at the heart of the work of my department and we do this by working hand in glove with the housing and homelessness sector and community housing providers. Delivering on the outcomes of the Housing Summit is no exception. There are several key measures in the housing outcomes report designed to alleviate immediate pressures that will be available through my department over the coming weeks to support Queenslanders with housing assistance, including investing \$10 million to expand private rental assistance to help Queensland households in rental stress stay in their home—this means families at risk of losing a private rental home have more support through bond loans, rental grants and the rental subsidy scheme; investing over \$11 million to expand tenancy support to sustain current tenancies for vulnerable Queenslanders—this means more direct support to Queensland families to keep a roof over their head; investing \$10 million to deliver more temporary emergency accommodation with on-site support faster by using under-utilised accommodationhelping families with nowhere else to go have a place to stay while a longer term solution is found; providing a further boost of \$5 million to the Immediate Housing Response Package to enable people at risk of homelessness to remain housed—bringing the total amount to \$26 million; and providing additional support of \$8.5 million for after-hours outreach in five priority locations—this means we are linking vulnerable people who are sleeping rough with a place to stay and wraparound supports.

We are doubling emergency relief funding for vulnerable Queenslanders to \$2 million and partnering with 86 NGO providers across Queensland. This means that vulnerable families struggling with cost-of-living pressures do not have to choose between rent and other essentials. We are also investing \$1.3 million to double support for food relief services like Foodbank and OzHarvest to help keep food on the table of vulnerable Queenslanders. I look forward to continuing to work closely with the sector, community housing providers and my cabinet colleagues to deliver better housing services now and into the future. As Queenslanders we have that optimism and resilience to step up and collectively tackle the challenges ahead, and the Housing Summit outcomes report builds on our government's solid foundation to achieve just that.