




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Housing Supply

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.41 am): Queensland's economy is booming, so it is no wonder people are flocking here for the good jobs and great lifestyle our great state has to offer. We are determined to ensure our housing supply keeps up, and that is why we are easing certain planning regulations to make it easier for people to find accommodation.

A change today to the planning regulation will provide more housing options in lower density residential zones. By removing the requirement for local government planning approval, providing other requirements are met, we are accelerating the development of rooming accommodation in areas where residential development is expected. The change does not affect the need for rooming accommodation to be assessed under the building framework and to obtain all other necessary approvals, such as for plumbing or drainage.

Rooming accommodation is residential accommodation where each resident can only occupy one or more rooms on the premises as agreed rather than the whole premises. Other rooms within the premises, facilities, furniture or equipment outside of the residents' rooms are shared with the other residents at the premises. Making it easier for rooming accommodation to be developed means more options for Queenslanders who need a place to live. The change will help to provide greater housing diversity in the lower density residential zone, low-to-medium density residential zone and general residential zones across Queensland.

Today I am also proud to announce that the first six local housing action plans for councils across Western Queensland will be unveiled. These are designed to tackle housing challenges in rural and remote communities. The Palaszczuk government has partnered with the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils to fast-track the plans for its 22 councils.

Today we can release the pilot plans for Murweh, Paroo, Flinders, Blackall-Tambo, Boulia and Carpentaria councils. These plans will equip councils to better respond to a range of immediate, emerging and longer-term housing challenges. The Western Queensland Alliance of Councils has been leading the way with its work in examining the key factors affecting housing in each of these communities.

The plans include an assessment of housing availability, a view of the rental market, social housing, demand for aged care and emergency housing. This is just the start, with the learnings from these pilot sites to inform how action plans will be rolled out to the 16 other councils. We are committed to working with councils across Queensland to address housing issues and improve the livability of our communities.