




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 23 February 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Social Housing

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (7.00 pm): Five years ago the Labor government announced a so-called \$1.8 billion investment in social housing. Over that same period of time the social housing waiting list has gone from 29,000 people to 50,000 people—a blowout of 70 per cent. How has the government responded to that crisis that we have at the moment for our most vulnerable people? Despite all of those grand announcements and despite the promise for major investment, five years after—that is halfway through this program—the number of social housing bedrooms has increased by less than one per cent.

Out of all of our local government areas, in 22 of those local government areas the number of social housing bedrooms has actually gone backwards. Brisbane—a city the size of Brisbane—has had a miserly 59 extra social housing bedrooms added over the last five years. We have heard different members of the cabinet get up in here at different times and talk about how they are a champion of the working class, how they are a champion of the vulnerable and how they will build the social housing that is required. The evidence suggests the opposite. This is data that comes directly from the department of housing given to us through a question on notice answered by the department.

Let us have a look at some of the electorates that the ministers represent. In the minister's own electorate over the last four years there have been five extra social housing bedrooms added. What about the former minister, Minister de Brenni from Springwood? Over that period of time there have been six extra bedrooms added. What about the Treasurer, who waxed lyrical a couple of sittings ago about how this is a government that really sticks up for the vulnerable? In his electorate there has been a 0.4 per cent increase—an increase of two bedrooms—over the last four years.

Turning to Minister Grace from McConnel, there has been no addition; it has gone backwards by 12 bedrooms. What about the minister who is the member for Gaven who talks about the federal government and blames it? In her electorate there are 34 fewer social housing properties than there were four years ago. In the Deputy Premier's electorate there are 15 fewer. Worst of all, in the seat of Inala—the Premier's seat—there are 102 fewer social housing bedrooms than there were four years ago. This government's housing policy is a hoax and vulnerable Queenslanders are the victim of its inability to produce and provide social housing.