




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

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MOTION

Federal Morrison Government

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (5.00 pm): We have been waiting for it all week and we have come to their very last opportunity. They are so predictable. What a pathetic motion from a pathetic government. This is a government that cannot take responsibility for the portfolios that it has been given responsibility for. There is no greater example of this than in the housing portfolio.

I will tell members what we want our fair share of? What we want our fair share of in the housing sector is funding from the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation—a billion dollar fund that the federal government created to lend to community housing organisations. This minister and this government does not value community housing organisations and has not built the capacity of community housing organisations so they would have enough leverage to get the much needed money to build more affordable housing.

What has Queensland received over the last couple of years from NHFIC? It has received a lousy \$5 million compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars that have been given to community housing organisations in New South Wales and Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia where there are Labor governments. In fact, we are alone in this country in not being able to access those funds because our community housing organisations have not been built or been trusted to be powerful enough to get that funding.

Coincidentally, this afternoon I spoke with one of the heads of a community housing organisation?

Ms Enoch: Which one?

Mr MANDER: No, I will not tell you. They know that you will come after them. That is exactly what you will do. You will come after them.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order! Member for Everton, you will direct your comments through the chair or you will be warned.

Mr MANDER: I will take that interjection because this vindictive government goes after anybody who speaks against them. The community housing organisations will not say a word because they know their future depends on this minister's grace.

The head of that organisation said to me today, 'Tim, under this current government I doubt whether community housing organisations in this state will still be viable in five years time.' What they will do is drive out the organisations that are the answer to the problem we have. The federal government is not the problem. The federal government has supplied a billion dollar fund. Until this government changes its philosophy with regard to social and affordable housing nothing will happen.

Those 50,000 people on the public housing waiting list will be waiting and waiting and the list will grow and grow. Over the last seven years of this government the increase in social housing bedrooms is less than one per cent and the waiting list has continued to expand. The frightening thing about that is that 70 per cent of those people waiting are regarded as in very high need. We are hearing of people who have never had housing stress before looking for housing.

I do not know whether members saw *Current Affair* last night? There is no greater example than some of those people who come from the Premier's electorate of Inala. The constituents were saying how out of touch the Premier is. Then we have the Treasurer who pretends that he can associate with the people of Woodridge, the people of his electorate.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr MANDER: I take that interjection. The Treasurer says he understands the challenges of the people of Woodridge. What has happened in his electorate in the last four years? There have been two extra social housing bedrooms over the last five years.

We have wait two years and five months to get rid of this government. It is only an LNP government at a state level that will be able to deliver in housing. This government and this minister have failed miserably.