



Speech By Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Housing and Homelessness

Mr MANDER (Everton—LNP) (2.00 pm): After six weeks, today we finally received a report on the Queensland Housing Summit. There is not one thing in this report that will put a roof over the head of an extra vulnerable Queenslander before Christmas. There is no sense of urgency whatsoever. You do not judge this government by another glossy brochure that they can put under their arm—you do not do that at all; you judge them by their actions. Over the last seven years, there has been a less than one per cent increase in the number of social housing bedrooms while at the same time there has been a 70 per cent increase in the number of people on the social housing waiting list. Their policy announcements have been a complete and utter failure. Let's just go through some of those announcements.

There was the grand announcement of Help to Home, where they have gone to the private sector, those that would normally invest in the private rental market, which is at record low vacancy rates—probably the worst vacancy rates in history—and encouraging them to go out of that market into the social housing market. How successful has that been? Their target was 1,000 homes over two years. Six months down the track, only 19 people have volunteered to be part of that scheme—an absolute failure.

Their next announcement was the granny flat announcement. There is no mention of the words 'granny flat' in this document. No! They had to change the name because they were embarrassed by that. There will not be one extra homeless person housed in a granny flat resulting from this announcement. It is all about the announcement, not about the action.

Then the absolute genius announcement they made this morning—I think they made it a week or two ago—is that they are going to have QBuild increased in size to build prefab homes for social housing and for government workers. I would get approached probably six times a week from Queensland owned, prefab home companies who say, 'We are here. We do it now. We can produce this.' But, no, this government have ignored these Queensland owned companies who are expert in the field to build another bureaucracy. Go to any school and talk about QBuild, they start rolling their eyes and shaking their heads. 'Fast-track' and 'QBuild' are two mutually exclusive terms. It is not about the announcement; it is about the action. This government is a fraud when it comes to dealing with the housing crisis.

(Time expired)