



Speech By  
**Ali King**


**MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 April 2023

## PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

### Housing

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.33 pm): Right across Queensland we know that housing is very tough right now. In our Pumicestone communities people are telling me loud and clear about the pressures they are facing when it comes to maintaining their housing. We know the reasons are complex. We have more people who have moved to Queensland during COVID—and why wouldn't they—but we also lost thousands of homes during the floods. Of course, since COVID more people are choosing to live in smaller households or on their own, which increases demand.

Meanwhile we are seeing rents go up, house prices go up, cost of living go up, interest rates go up—it is all going up and people are struggling. That is why our Palaszczuk Labor government is taking real action with over 50 urgent measures to make sure that Queenslanders have a roof over their head and can keep it there. Importantly, we have doubled the Housing Investment Fund to \$2 billion to deliver more housing supply into the future. This week we took action to limit rent increases to once every 12 months so renters get a fairer go and to create a circuit-breaker in rental increases. It will let people and families plan their budget for 12 months, and that is invaluable.

Since coming to government we have started builds on over 5,000 social and affordable homes and completed 4,000. That is 4,000 families who now have a home because of our Palaszczuk Labor government. We are looking to buy 335 NRAS properties to keep them on the social and affordable housing books after the federal LNP did what they do best and cut the NRAS. In Pumicestone we have seen major action on housing. Our government partnered with Churches of Christ to construct the Coolamon Apartments, 170 new purpose-built affordable homes for older people on Bribie Island.

**Mr Hart:** It was a 10-year plan. It expired. You can't tell the truth. It's finished.

**Ms KING:** I am not taking the member for Burleigh's interjections. By investing in older Queenslanders with these dignified comfortable apartments we are freeing up larger social homes—

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Martin): Order, member for Burleigh, member for Rockhampton.

**Ms KING:**—for families who need them. When I visit the Coolamon Apartments I see the enormous pride and comfort the residents take in their beautiful new homes and I feel so proud to be part of our Palaszczuk Labor government. People tell me that these homes have changed their lives. In building them, we have also helped build a supportive and secure community where they can enjoy their retirement. That is what Labor governments do. We listen and we work hard to deliver. We build and invest to keep Queenslanders in housing.

Now we are embarking on stage 2 of our rental reforms to ensure that the housing system is fair on renters, and I ask everybody in our Pumicestone communities to take part in that consultation. What a contrast with the LNP, who do nothing but carp, criticise, whinge, whine and cut when it comes to housing. We saw that under the member for Everton—428 fewer houses.