



Speech By  
**Hon. Meaghan Scanlon**


**MEMBER FOR GAVEN**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2023

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Social Housing**

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (Minister for Housing) (10.10 am): Since becoming housing minister I have visited a lot of construction sites. In fact, I have visited properties across Queensland, with more than 760 social and affordable homes, many under construction, nearly done or now complete. We are building homes right across the state with our \$5 billion investment to deliver thousands of social and affordable homes for Queenslanders in need. I have had the opportunity to listen to people who have received support, whether that be a new home, a rental subsidy or support through one of the many specialist homelessness services we partner with to provide temporary accommodation. I have heard stories like those of John and Joanne, who were struggling to pay their rent before being assisted with one of our rental security subsidies, which provides up to \$10,000 to help bridge the gap. In John's words—

... we're grateful for any assistance. Every week that we get this help will help immensely. We can pay our other bills and not get behind on anything.

I also recently had the chance to meet Glen. For the first time in his life, Glen last year experienced homelessness, sleeping in a park in Brisbane. Today he is now the proud tenant of a social housing home and working hard to become employed once again. He is one of more than 230 people we have been able to help with support and accommodation through our dedicated inner-city Brisbane homelessness response. The response sees government work with homelessness providers like Mission Australia, Micah Projects and other organisations around the clock to help people with dedicated support, emergency accommodation and longer term housing options.

Then there are social housing tenants like Paul, who shared his story about having worked all of his life from a young age only to have to retire due to serious medical conditions. Paul was living in a home that was more than 100 years old and which is now being redeveloped, with funding support from the Palaszczuk government, to turn this single property into multiple units or apartments that can now house more Queenslanders like Paul.

It is not just this development where Paul lives; we have hundreds of social housing properties under construction right now, and we have thousands in the pipeline as we get on with our big housing build. In fact, since we last sat I have had the pleasure of visiting or announcing projects right across the state, in places like Redbank Plains, Nerang, Zillmere, Woodridge, Yarrabilba, Caboolture, Acacia Ridge, Mundingburra, Rasmussen, Clayfield, Woolloongabba, Sunnybank Hills, Chermside, Basin Pocket, Yatala, Rothwell, Darra, Yandina, Spring Hill and Cannonvale. We have been very busy, and there is a range of other initiatives as well. Every day my department is delivering to help people like Paul, Glen, John and Joanne. These are the names and faces behind the statistics.