




Speech By
Hon. Meaghan Scanlon

MEMBER FOR GAVEN

Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Social and Affordable Housing

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (Minister for Housing) (9.55 am): Our big housing build just got bigger. As the Premier said, we will be building an additional 600 social homes, thanks to a \$398 million injection from the Albanese Labor federal government. It adds to our government's \$5 billion investment for social and affordable housing and means this Palaszczuk government will now deliver 14,100 new homes for families, seniors, young people and people with a disability all across this state. Importantly, though, eight out of 10 of these 600 additional homes will be delivered outside of Brisbane in regional, rural and remote parts of Queensland. From Cape York to the Gold Coast, we have made sure these additional homes are going where they are needed most, alongside the thousands of homes we already have in the pipeline.

These additional homes mean that at a minimum we will now deliver 216 homes for Cape York, 308 homes for Far North Queensland, 279 homes for North Queensland, 218 homes for Wide Bay, 174 homes for the Sunshine Coast, 220 homes for Moreton Bay and 189 homes for Ipswich over the next few years, just to name a few. That does not even include the Housing Australia Future Fund or the \$2 billion Housing Investment Fund at a state level.

Shovels are in the ground right now on hundreds of sites across Queensland to build more public homes, and we will be looking at mixed methods for their delivery through traditional means, prefabricated builds, house and land packages, partnerships with community housing providers and First Nations councils, and the redevelopment of accommodation like hotels and motels into housing.

It shows what can happen when different levels of government work together. I want to acknowledge this investment from the Commonwealth. It is a welcomed step forward after a decade of underinvestment. However, this cannot be it. The Albanese government's commitment must be the beginning, not the end, of the Commonwealth's engagement in solving the housing puzzle. We will soon start negotiations for a national housing and homelessness agreement and we will be advocating that Queensland gets its fair share, because to house Queenslanders of the future we need all levels of government to play their part.