




Speech By
Hon. Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Housing

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.38 am): We know that Queensland is the place to be. Since May 2018, our population has gone from five million to 5.56 million. That is the equivalent of almost the entire population of Tasmania relocating to Queensland. That is great news for our economy, but it brings its challenges, too, particularly in relation to housing and infrastructure. That is why the Miles government is making the single largest investment in Queensland's housing sector ever, through our \$3.1 billion Homes for Queenslanders plan. Two central pillars of that plan are to build more homes faster and boost our social housing Big Build. All levels of government have a role to play so that every Queenslanders has a safe, secure and affordable place to call home.

The factors driving the housing challenges are complex and there is not one simple solution. The Miles government is committed to using every lever at our disposal to identify solutions and implement them. Through Economic Development Queensland, my department has a major role to play in housing supply, and we are focused on increasing the delivery of more social and affordable housing across the state. Our work includes: directly delivering social and affordable housing with EDQ-led projects in Northshore Hamilton, Carseldine and Southport; encouraging developers to deliver more affordable and social housing in priority development areas; and completing initial investigations of 27 surplus government sites large enough to potentially deliver substantial numbers of social and affordable housing. I am pleased to report we are continuing to advance all suitable surplus sites to their next stages of delivery.

I was pleased to recently announce, with the housing minister, \$500,000 in funding for the development of a business case for a large-scale social and affordable housing development on government owned land at Ivory Street in Fortitude Valley. We are not stopping there. To deliver one of our key pillars, I will be introducing legislation to this House that will deliver more homes for Queenslanders faster through Economic Development Queensland.

The bill is one of the outcomes of the housing summit and will focus on several key areas: providing EDQ with a clearer mission, incorporating social and affordable housing into EDQ's main purpose; a coordinated approach to ensure livability with the introduction of place renewal areas; and aligned to Queensland's Big Build. The new legislation is expected to result in EDQ delivering an additional 1,300 dwellings over the next five years, as well as approve a further 15,000 homes in PDAs.

The state, local and Commonwealth governments all have a role to play in ensuring every Queenslanders has a place to call home. The Miles government will use every lever we have at our disposal, every tool we can, and everything in our power to make that happen. Queenslanders deserve nothing less.