




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR GAVEN

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Affordable Housing

 **Ms SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (2.44 pm): It is great to follow the new Minister for Trade to talk about broken promises. It did not take long for the LNP government to go full 'mask off' and reveal their true colours on their housing agenda. It was no more obvious than when the Premier decided to ditch the member for Everton, who of course sent social housing in this state backwards, who axed 1,600 jobs and who axed support for renters. The Premier found someone who actually dislikes housing even more than the member for Everton—that is, the member for Bonney, who campaigned almost primarily against affordable housing in his own electorate.

The housing minister barely got his feet under the table before he and the Deputy Premier decided to scrap and cancel hundreds of homes in his electorate, a portion of which needed to be affordable housing, on a privately owned, disused golf course. Adding insult to injury was the contribution from the member for Bonney in debate of the Olympics bill, which was rammed through this parliament in the last sitting week. The member for Bonney talked about a surf and golf resort on a golf course in Parkwood. Interestingly, he is okay with resort style housing and wave pools but not affordable housing on golf courses. We know what that contribution was all about. It was because the member for Bonney does not have the intestinal fortitude to make clear to the community—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Gaven, I am going to take some advice on that last expression. I will not ask you to withdraw that but I caution you and all members about the use of unparliamentary language. I will be very quick to jump on that if it happens.

Ms SCANLON: The member for Bonney did not have the ticker to come in here and say what his government's position was—which was to turn their back on First Nations Queenslanders. It is hard to fix housing affordability if you cancel projects with affordable housing. This short-sighted nimbyism which we see from those opposite is just the first example of many. Not satisfied with axing that particular project, the LNP came into this House on their first real day of parliament and rushed through a law that basically says, 'We're not going to listen to the Public Service. We don't think the chief executive should make decisions about affordable housing.' They have given the Deputy Premier the power to scrap and amend affordable housing projects that our government gave the green light to.

This was a process that housing stakeholders called for, that Q Shelter called for: 20 per cent of those projects needed to have affordable housing and those opposite do not want them. We had 11 projects in the pipeline. We had a situation where the candidate for Noosa was actively campaigning against the project in her community. We then heard what this was really about when the member for Chatsworth said he did not support the project in his community either. This was interesting, given the LNP have been talking about working with faith-based organisations. That project is working with the Roman Catholic archdiocese.

Mr Dick interjected.

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection from the member for Woodridge. Those opposite are not supportive of affordable housing if it is in their own electorate. That is evident.

What we also saw was total disrespect for specialist homelessness services. Those opposite went to the election claiming they were going to match Labor's 20 per cent uplift in funding for those hardworking organisations.

Mr Mander: To match Labor's? It is the other way around: we are the only ones who put it in the forwards.

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection from the former housing minister, who axed social housing in this state. The LNP, on the eve of the election, disclosed that, in fact, it was not a 20 per cent increase; they were cutting funding to organisations like Micah, Vinnie's and Mission Australia who rely on state government funding.

Mr Mander: What world does this person live in?

An honourable member: It is baked in.

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection of the member who said it is baked in. Why was it not in the costings?

Mr O'Connor: It is a 20 per cent uplift. Take the 20 per cent uplift interjection. That is what we are doing.

Ms SCANLON: Why was it not in the costings?

Mr O'Connor: The 20 per cent uplift.

Ms SCANLON: Member for Bonney, it is disrespectful to those hardworking specialist homelessness organisations.

Mr Mander: Who explained it to you? Did they—

Ms SCANLON: Member for Everton—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order! As I said earlier, when a member on their feet takes interjections and invites further interjections, that does not necessarily make them right. The Minister for Housing and the Minister for the Olympics, you have had a good go. If I have to refer to you again, it will be a warning, and that is a general warning to everyone from now on.

Ms SCANLON: I take the member for Everton's interjection. We all remember that interview when he was the shadow treasurer and talked about the costings. I would not be lecturing us on costings, member for Everton. Breaking promises, cutting services and axing homes—that is what the LNP has already done, and it has only been just over a month.