




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 12 September 2024

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Miles Labor Government, Housing

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (2.19 pm): The questions that Queenslanders will ask themselves this election with regard to housing are: are they better or worse off after a decade of this Labor government; and who has the right plan for Queensland's future? I will argue this afternoon that they are much worse.

Let's look at Labor's record in housing over the last 10 years. I mentioned some of these figures this morning in my question during question time. Housing lot approvals are down by 26 per cent. Building approvals are down by 36 per cent. Despite the public housing waiting list now blowing out nearly double to over 45,000 people, social housing stock has increased by only 2.7 per cent in that 10-year period.

The Productivity Commissioner said that, for the last two years, this state has had the lowest spend per capita on social housing in the nation. We are used to the government making announcement after announcement with no start date for construction, no locations and definitely no end date of construction. The Auditor-General's report said that, over the last 10 years, the department of housing has failed to plan and it is one of the reasons we do not have the supply of housing that we should have to meet the demand.

Let's go to the list of failures that they have had in housing. The Griffith University student debacle saw \$2 million spent and six or seven months wasted. It came about after a sweetheart phone call to one of their old Labor mates. They said, 'We need a solution to a problem,' but in the end they said, 'Let's keep this one in the bank for later on when we need this favour from you.'

The Help to Home program was supposed to have 1,000 homes—ironically, not new homes but homes taken out of the rental market—which is what we so desperately need. No wonder it was such a failure—there were only 64 out of 1,000 delivered. Then there was the granny flat announcement—what a joke that was. They refused to work with churches who were offering up land—10,000 lots—yet this mob, despite going out and asking people for land, refused to deal with them.

Then there was the HIF—the Housing Investment Fund. It was announced three years ago that there would be 3,600 new homes by 2025. Today, there is not one single person in a new home built by the Housing Investment Fund. Anyone who walks down to the riverbanks of Brisbane or goes to any park in this state will see the homelessness tragedy we have at the moment. Time is up for Labor. Show them the door in '24.

(Time expired)