




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

Record of Proceedings, 29 October 2025

MOTION

Housing

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (6.01 pm): It is a pleasure to rise to talk on this motion. What I have heard so far from the LNP is simple boasting—plain and very hollow boasting. As I said yesterday, the only tool they have needed is a pair of golden scissors. They have gone in front of all of these housing projects initiated under Labor wielding the golden scissors and cutting the ribbons. There is a media release today about their so-called achievements in Moreton Bay. They laud the fact that 82 new social and affordable homes have been delivered in Redcliffe and 75 are under construction in Deception Bay. However, these are projects that could only have been initiated under Labor. These are Labor projects. All they are doing in my area is turning up with this pair of golden scissors.

As I said yesterday, the LNP is using scissors to do a whole lot more in the area of housing; they are cutting social and affordable housing projects. Yesterday the Leader of the Opposition said—

This LNP government has already scrapped almost 10,000 social and affordable homes. At Kurilpa, 4,800 affordable homes have been axed. At Woolloongabba, 3,200 affordable homes have been cut. At the Visy site, 800 homes have been scrapped. These were homes in the pipeline and they are gone, and thousands more are likely on the chopping block.

As we just heard, the member for Woodridge said that these places housed teachers, doctors and nurses. Speaking of teachers, I just got a message from one teacher: 'Tell them the teachers hate them and nearly everyone I know is telling them to stick it'—so do not annoy them anymore by cutting more affordable housing.

The Deputy Premier does not want to talk about these cuts. He wants to say they are delivering for Queensland with the Residential Activation Fund, but the truth is that, as we have heard, this fund has not delivered one single home. It will take years to build this infrastructure and it will take years after that to build these housing developments, and this will be right in the middle of an Olympic building period. Queenslanders need these homes now. It is no good just doing hollow boasting to show what you have done. All we hear from the Deputy Premier is boasting about funding housing infrastructure projects that would normally be funded by developers as part of their development approval. I would like to see him explain how these gains are going to be shared by or passed on to Queenslanders who need these homes.

As I said, the LNP have the scissors out and are cutting affordable housing projects in their own backyard. We have heard a lot about that. That is because the first bill this LNP government passed was to give the Deputy Premier the ability to scrap or reduce affordable housing projects, and they have used that ability ruthlessly ever since. They have also cut the policy of buying hotels and unused aged-care facilities to help vulnerable Queenslanders. They have cut any requirements for developers to build social and affordable homes.

In delivering social and affordable homes, the LNP are clearly failing. In their response to homelessness, the LNP are really failing. We heard the member for Bundaberg talk briefly on this. What I have seen in my area is that the LNP have pushed people out of parks and hotels and into backyards and the bush. They have made it harder to qualify for social housing and they have made it harder to get crisis accommodation.

The new eligibility criteria brought in by this government are pushing people out of hotels and back into tents and backyards. The criteria states that if a person does not engage with their housing provider, if they breach accommodation rules or behave inappropriately, or if they refuse a reasonable offer, they are out and their emergency assistance can be ended. What does this criteria mean in real life? I have spoken to so many people who have, I believe, been unfairly kicked out under the unfair application of this criteria. Many of these people have complicated lives and have undergone trauma. One person I spoke to had lost her partner through homicide and more have been victims of domestic violence. One returned to her domestic violence situation once she lost her emergency accommodation. If they say, 'I cannot move to the place you offer because there are people there who will feed my addiction,' you can understand that. The criteria that the LNP brought in are heartless and cruel and are making the situation worse.