




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Linard

MEMBER FOR NUDGE

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ADJOURNMENT

Nudgee Electorate, Social Housing

 **Hon. LM LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (8.59 pm): My electorate, like many across the state, is experiencing housing insecurity, skyrocketing rental prices and an increasing number of people sleeping rough in our local villages and streets, chief among them Nundah. Daily, people from across my local community and beyond are calling or walking into my office telling me or my team that they have come to us as their final hope that they and too often their young children will sleep with a roof over their head that night.

Homelessness services are oversubscribed. The public housing waitlist is getting longer and private rentals are getting less and less affordable every day. In September Micah Projects published that homelessness in Brisbane has tripled over the past 18 months—tripled! While our former Labor government acted, what have we seen from those opposite? We see a government that talks big on housing but delivers very little—a government that has promised Queenslanders relief, promised families certainty and promised that it has the right plan to fix housing, when the reality is very different.

What we see from the Crisafulli LNP government is a pattern of decisions that are making housing harder for those who are already finding it hard enough. Scrapping affordable and social housing targets and quotas in key development areas is just one example of making it harder for vulnerable Queenslanders. These targets were not symbolic; they were the mechanism that guaranteed a supply of affordable housing for people who need homes and where they need them most.

Removing these targets is not reform; it is retreat—retreat from Queenslanders who need government advocacy and assistance the most. QCOSS Chief Executive Officer Aimee said it best when she said, ‘Including social and affordable housing targets in PDAs is not red tape; it’s good planning.’ The Deputy Premier essentially labelling these requirements as ‘unmarketable’ speaks volumes about this government’s priorities. It sends a signal to the market and to vulnerable Queenslanders that increasing affordable housing supply is optional, secondary and negotiable. Meanwhile, demand is soaring and communities are begging for urgent action.

For Queenslanders already on the edge—rough sleepers and families in motels—this government has not offered a lifeline; it has offered penalties. It has introduced a regime that tightens emergency housing eligibility, speeds up evictions and can ban people for two years. That is not a pathway out of homelessness. Experts have said it themselves: that is a guarantee that people will stay homeless. Queenslanders were promised a plan for one million homes. What they got instead was a Premier and a housing minister who have axed affordable housing projects, cancelled targets and changed emergency housing rules, leading to more Queenslanders sleeping on the street every night. Every Queenslanders deserves better.