



Speech By
Margaret Nightingale

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 29 October 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Inala Electorate, Homelessness

 **Mrs NIGHTINGALE** (Inala—ALP) (9.17 pm): I rise today on behalf of the hardworking families, pensioners and renters in my community who are doing it tougher than ever under this LNP government. Every week I meet locals at breaking point. One mum in Richlands told me she is living in a two-bedroom unit with her four kids, sleeping in the lounge room, because the rent went up \$120 a week. She is working two jobs yet still falling behind. Another pensioner in Durack said to me that he never thought he would be this old and worried about losing his home. This is Queensland in 2025 and it is not good enough. I have children from nearly every school in my electorate living in motels.

When the Premier came to office he promised Queenslanders they would be better off. He looked them in the eye and said life would get easier. Tell that to the families paying record rents, the young people who have given up on buying a home or the pensioners choosing between power bills and prescriptions. Are they better off? Not in my community. Inala used to be a place where people could afford to get a start—a suburb built for working families, new migrants and battlers trying for a new future—but not anymore. Recently a home in Inala sold for over \$1 million—\$1 million in what was once the last affordable pocket of Brisbane's south-west. If struggling families cannot afford to live in Inala anymore, where on earth are they supposed to go?

The LNP promised to fix housing but they have made it harder to find and harder to afford. They have cut funding for affordable housing and scrapped rental support programs. While they boast about streamlining approvals, the truth is simple: fewer homes are being built and more Queenslanders are being left behind. This government loves to talk about green shoots, but you cannot move into green shoots growing on empty plots. When Labor was in government we built homes, invested in community housing, backed renters and provided real cost-of-living relief, from energy rebates to cheaper registration. Luckily for Queenslanders, because of Labor's 50-cent fares they can still get to work. Even in opposition Labor is doing more to ease the cost of living than this LNP government is doing while in power.

This LNP government have not committed a single dollar to new social housing in Inala—not one—but Queenslanders know the truth, despite their claims that they have. They know that the 14 new social homes in my electorate were built by Labor because they saw me turning the first sod at the start and helping tenants move in at the finish. I was proud to help those families, even sourcing furniture and whitegoods for those who needed it. That is what Labor does.

An honourable member: You've done more than the Premier.

Mrs NIGHTINGALE: I take that interjection. We provide real, tangible support that helps our communities. Inala deserves a government that builds homes, not headlines; that delivers relief, not rhetoric; and that puts people first, not profits.