



Speech By
Hon. Meaghan Scanlon

MEMBER FOR GAVEN

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MOTION

Housing

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (6.20 pm): Didn't that contribution show how much the Treasurer's heart is in this? No wonder those opposite have problems! I want to respond to some of the claims made by the member for Bonney. He said that apparently we did not deliver anything under the Housing Investment Fund, but the member for Lockyer completely contradicted that by saying that in fact we did deliver homes and apparently his constituents have been badly affected because of our investment in buying and building social and affordable homes. I cannot believe that the member for Lockyer thinks that us stepping in to purchase National Rental Affordability Scheme homes because the Liberal National Party tried to flog them off is a bad thing. It beggars belief. He also went on to say that this was all fake outrage. Well, don't the polls show that that clearly is not the case? The *Brisbane Times* Resolve poll had voters rank the Crisafulli government's performance on housing as the worst of all six areas, with the largest group of voters saying that the government's performance was in a negative rating, declaring its response as 'poor'. There is no wonder why, because we have record rents and increased cost of living and the government is just not building enough affordable homes and in fact is axing affordable homes in its own backyard.

Then came the *Courier-Mail's* Demos poll, which confirmed what we are saying, revealing that the lack of affordable housing is the biggest issue facing Queenslanders. Those opposite have a net approval rating of minus 36 per cent on housing—minus 36 per cent! Rents have exploded, up nine per cent on the Gold Coast, in the housing minister's own electorate—and perhaps even more if the member for Bonney is your landlord. While families are skipping meals to keep a roof over their head, the dream of owning a home is out of reach for so many young Queenslanders.

I will give the Premier credit on one front: he has unlocked one home—by getting rid of his home on the Gold Coast and moving to his mansion in Bulimba, so congratulations! He has unlocked one home on the Gold Coast! While the Premier settles into his new postcode in Bulimba, the social housing waiting list continues to blow out, with an 11 per cent increase in just three months under those opposite. I see the member for Bonney shaking his head. They are your own numbers, mate, so I suggest you have a look. Every one of those numbers represents—

Mr SPEAKER: Use correct titles, please.

Ms SCANLON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Every one of those numbers represents a Queenslanders sleeping in a car, on a couch or under a tarp, because this government cannot get its act together.

What is the LNP's response in the middle of a housing crisis? It is to axe social and affordable housing homes and targets. I heard the spin from those opposite in that they are now trying to talk about attacking community housing providers. If those opposite want to talk about attacking community housing providers, the Deputy Premier ripped up the approval for one of the largest community housing

providers in this state because it was too many houses in his own electorate—thousands of homes gone. What kind of government kills social and affordable housing projects in the middle of a housing crisis? It is a government that governs for donors and developers and not for renters and workers.

Those opposite love to talk a big game about construction—we heard the spin this morning—but the facts tell a very different story. ABS data out today shows that Queensland housing costs have increased by 13.2 per cent over the last year. Remember when the Premier said that the test would be whether people were better off? I do not think the people are better off if costs have increased under the LNP's watch by 13.2 per cent and the number of houses that have started construction under this government is down 4.4 per cent compared to the decade average. Those are not our stats; those are the stats from CommSec. Even the market analysts can see that there is less building, less housing and less hope.

This is the same old LNP—the LNP that sacked QBuild workers. This morning I heard the member for Bonney talking about the great work of the member for Everton—the guy who sent social housing in this state backwards. Now, instead of helping people who are doing it tough, they have changed the rules to make it harder for homeless Queenslanders. When you have people like the member for Mermaid Beach, who made almost an entire speech saying that he thought homeless people should be locked up and that laws against vagrancy should come back, and people like the member for Mackay who are upset that they cannot have fish and chips around homeless people, I think that is pretty indicative of the type of people they are.

(Time expired)