




Speech By  
**Hon. Samuel O'Connor**  
**MEMBER FOR BONNEY**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 June 2025

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Housing and Homelessness**

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (10.06 am): The first budget of the Crisafulli government will include the biggest boost to homelessness services and crisis accommodation support in Queensland's history. A total of \$592 million in new, additional, extra funding will be allocated to better support Queenslanders experiencing homelessness.

At the heart of our approach is certainty for frontline workers, for their providers and for the people they serve. That is why I am proud to confirm that the 20 per cent funding uplift we promised for specialist homelessness services will be locked in. We have gone a step further than our election commitment with \$209 million provided in this budget to lock it in for an extra year, taking this funding uplift for the entire four years all the way to June 2029.

This is the most significant ongoing investment ever delivered to help Queenslanders experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Many of our funded services are approaching the end of their current agreements, with most due for renewal by June 2026. Under Labor, these providers were expected to deliver over multiple years but were only given annual funding. Their workers would not be sure they had a job until they saw it in the budget every year.

Locking in the funding uplift is our down payment to finally allow us to move to longer service agreements with matched funding, giving frontline organisations the long-term security they need so they can focus on doing what they do best—helping vulnerable Queenslanders. It means services can plan ahead, invest in their workforce capability and focus on outcomes, not just surviving year to year.

I do want to address the fear campaign which has been irresponsibly spread by the Labor opposition. Their repeated claims about homelessness services funding were not just wrong; they were a deliberate attempt to frighten frontline workers and use vulnerable Queenslanders for political gain. This budget exposes Labor's scare campaign for what it was—baseless. Unlike the former Labor government whose last budget had the 20 per cent uplift ending this month, we have the funding locked in. We are standing with the workers who deliver life-changing support and backing them with record locked in investment.

We are also more than doubling funding for headleasing homes, injecting \$124 million over the budget period. We know people are spending an average of around four months in our hotels and motels Crisis Accommodation Program—an unsuitable long-term environment, particularly for families. Headleasing helps bridge the gap, offering immediate, stable housing while we get more supply out of the ground.

We are providing \$238 million for headleasing over the next four years—more than twice what Labor had budgeted. I want to thank Micah Projects, the largest manager of our hotel and motel Crisis Accommodation Program, for giving me the opportunity to spend a couple of hours last week with mostly single mums who are living in our hotels and motels. Their stories were impactful. I thank them for sharing their experiences with me. They reinforced what we all know: temporary accommodation, while essential, is not something for the long term. This budget will put more families, more seniors and more young people in secure properties across our state to better meet the diverse needs of the people we serve while we ramp up our construction of social and community housing to a scale our state has never seen before with a new model of delivery.

The Crisafulli government is proud to be delivering a record investment in homelessness services and crisis accommodation support to help more of those most in need, because every Queenslanders deserves a safe, secure place to call home.