




Speech By
Hon. Samuel O'Connor
MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 25 June 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Housing Supply

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (10.10 am): The Crisafulli government's first budget lays the foundation for our plan to tackle the Queensland housing crisis and ease cost-of-living pressures across our entire housing system by investing in more social and community housing. That is because the best way to put downward pressure on rents is to build more homes sooner. Our budget delivers Queensland's biggest ever investment in social and community housing, with \$5.6 billion allocated over the next four years to build more homes.

Our comprehensive housing plan will deliver a place to call home for more Queenslanders by increasing housing supply across the board, helping ease pressure for renters and first home buyers and especially our most vulnerable. We have inherited an unprecedented housing crisis and we are delivering an unprecedented response. Renters are particularly feeling the impacts worse than most. Under Labor, rents soared 60 per cent because supply did not keep pace with demand. Labor's former housing minister created chaos across the housing market through knee-jerk legislative changes riddled with unintended consequences that had to be embarrassingly corrected. It shattered investor confidence in our state. We are taking a very different approach—one that is built on certainty and stability, not stunts.

Our government is driving productivity in our construction sector. Our Building Reg Reno will help tradies spend less time on paperwork and more time on the tools by updating outdated building regulations. We are increasing housing supply as our No. 1 priority because more supply creates more options, and that is particularly important for Queenslanders on the social housing wait list, which grew 81 per cent on Labor's watch. Over the last decade, social housing construction grew at just a third of the rate of Queensland's population and community housing grew at around half of that, adding more pressure to an already stretched system.

The message has been loud and clear from our hardworking housing delivery teams—the stop-start grant programs of the past were too limited, too uncertain and too slow. That is why we are proud to be the first Queensland government to lock in permanent baseline funding for social and community housing construction. On top of that record uplift that we are delivering over the forward estimates, we have committed \$500 million per year beyond the forwards in perpetuity. That certainty allows us to run an always-on procurement process so community housing providers can bring forward proposals year-round—not just when funding windows open. It creates consistency, it speeds up delivery and it means more homes will get built faster. That puts real downward pressure on rents which particularly helps our most vulnerable households. This is how the LNP will secure Queensland's housing foundations and provide a place to call home for more people across our state.