




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

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Record of Proceedings, 27 August 2025

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Social and Affordable Housing**

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (2.26 pm): After 10 years of housing decline under Labor, the Crisafulli government has made a strong start to deliver change in just our first 10 months. Under Labor, just 509 social homes were delivered on average each year, leading to the social housing waitlist growing by 81 per cent over their time in office.

Our changes to properly manage existing public housing tenancies just this week revealed that Labor even allowed high-income earners and property owners to live in social housing while thousands of eligible vulnerable Queenslanders waited for a safe and secure place to call home. I can update the House that, as of today, in just 10 months the Crisafulli government's pipeline of social and affordable homes under contract or construction has more than doubled since Labor's last budget. We are on track to deliver more than 1,500 homes this financial year alone, as we ramp up our annual delivery to more than 2,000 social and community homes per year by the end of this term of government.

The former housing minister, now shadow housing minister, likes to make claims about 1,000 homes being cut. The member for Gaven's interest in these projects stopped when it came to actually funding them. Not a single dollar was allocated to any of the homes they claim this government has cut. You can't cut funding that didn't exist.

These projects were not supported by their communities. They were not supported by their councils. They were hypothetical houses designed to be more about creating a political fight than about actually giving vulnerable Queenslanders somewhere to live. We are focused on actually getting things built, at a scale never before seen and in the right locations across our state. Just last week in Emerald I saw exactly what this looks like, alongside the member for the Gregory—an 18-home social housing development across four levels in what we think will be the tallest building in town. I did joke with locals that we are bringing a little bit of the Gold Coast to Emerald, but the member for Gregory asked me to stop pretty quickly and hurried me off. This one project, though, will be big enough to provide a home to around a third of the number of people in this region on the social housing register. Housing one-third of the people on the register in that region in one project is extraordinary. That is the difference between spin and delivery.

As the Treasurer outlined earlier, we have a housing crisis because we inherited a productivity crisis. The Queensland Productivity Commission's interim report was released recently and it could not have been clearer: productivity was going backwards and housing supply with it. Queensland has the least productive job sites in the nation. That means that, because of the building and construction sector that Labor oversaw, 77,000 fewer homes have been built that could have been built since 2018. Imagine how housing would look in Queensland if we had an extra 77,000 homes right now.

The Crisafulli government's housing targets are ambitious because Queenslanders deserve nothing less. A million new homes with 53,500 new social and community homes by 2044—two years

earlier than these targets were promised by Labor. Our message to Queenslanders is simple: after a decade of decline, there is now a growing pipeline of new housing across this state. There is a clear plan and funding certainty to get homes built. Productivity will be restored. Communities across our state are starting to feel the difference of 10 months of LNP delivery after 10 years of decline under Labor. We are just getting started with our work to give more Queenslanders a place to call home.