




Speech By
Hon. Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 11 February 2026

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Housing

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (2.19 pm): Queensland's housing crisis did not happen by accident; it happened because Labor mismanaged the system at every level. They backed the CFMEU over Queenslanders. They allowed productivity to decline on construction sites. They failed to build anywhere near enough social and affordable homes. They let property owners and high-income earners live in social homes that we did have. While they were entrenching union influence in government procurement, literally having the CFMEU write the state government's procurement policies, housing supply was collapsing across the board. Construction productivity in our state dropped by around nine per cent. Since 2018, 77,000 fewer homes were built across Queensland because of the policy settings the former government had in place. Just 509 social homes were delivered on average each year—barely one-third of the rate our population grew by over the same period. Almost half of our public housing tenants did not have basic eligibility checks done for over five years.

That is why our Crisafulli government is turning the housing crisis around. The CFMEU is no longer writing building and procurement policy in our state. Since coming to government we have had 2,020 social and affordable homes delivered. We have 3,477 social homes under contract and 5,970 in total under contract or construction. Those are the homes that we count, not hypothetical houses. They are not press release projections. They are real homes, actually funded and underway. Unlike those opposite, who have been posting and spreading misleading information about our Land Activation Program, we want to see homes built in well-located places such as near train stations—so the Deputy Premier can catch a train—or on major transport corridors. We have unlocked up to 400 homes on empty state land in Banyo. A community housing development will be included on that site to deliver affordable housing.

Today, I am proud to announce that the Crisafulli government has more housing coming to the Nudgee electorate. I can announce a fantastic 35-home social housing project in Nundah that went to public notification today. I will table the beautiful plans for that development, which has gone to public notification. It is part of our record \$5.6 billion investment in delivering social and community housing in every corner of Queensland.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Proposed public housing development—1369 Sandgate Rd, Nundah—Concept plans' [161](#).

I need to deal with another scare campaign that we have seen from those opposite, this time about the Social Housing Register. Labor have claimed we are removing people from the system. That is simply not true. There have been no changes to eligibility under this government and those opposite know that. The only change we made was to restart annual eligibility checks on 1 July last year—checks that Labor paused for over five years. If someone has been removed from the register it is because they are no longer eligible for social housing, they have secured some other form of housing, they have

refused our offers of housing, they are uncontactable or they have moved interstate or out of the country. It is not because this government has changed the rules. In fact, I will refer to the number of applications that have come off the register in previous years.

Ms Scanlon interjected.

Mr O'CONNOR: In 2024-25, 5,219 applications came off the register and in 2023-24—when the person interjecting was the housing minister—it was 5,022. There is barely a difference, despite all of the social media posts we have seen from those opposite. Labor think high-income earners and property owners should be living in social housing indefinitely. The Liberal National Party disagrees. We are making sure that social housing is for our most vulnerable Queenslanders. So far through our checks of existing tenants we have discovered 164 households that were earning incomes of over \$100,000 a year. Every home taken up by someone who no longer qualifies is a home denied to a Queenslanders in genuine housing need. We will not apologise for restoring integrity and fairness to our social housing system. Every Queenslanders deserves a place to call home and we are getting on with the job of delivering them.