

Question on Notice

No. 453

Asked on Thursday, 18 April 2024

MR T MANDER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PLANNING AND MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the ‘Portable Bonds’ scheme announced as part of the ‘Homes for Queenslanders’ announcement—

Will the Minister provide (a) when the scheme is expected to be operational and (b) the government’s intended timeframe to table legislation introducing the changes?

ANSWER:

The Miles Labor Government’s *Homes for Queenslanders* plan is continuing to provide cost of living assistance for renters through the introduction of the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill) into Parliament on 21 March 2024.

The Bill proposes to establish a head of power in the *Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008* to allow the Residential Tenancies Authority to transfer all or part of the rental bond paid by a renter for one tenancy agreement to become the rental bond paid by that renter for another tenancy agreement in circumstances prescribed by regulation.

The Bill was referred to the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee (the Committee) for consideration in detail. The Committee tabled its report in Parliament on 10 May 2024.

Work has commenced to design and develop the portable bond scheme, and once the head of power is established, targeted consultation will be undertaken with sector stakeholders.

While this detailed work is occurring, the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works is developing an interim Bridging Bond Loan product to assist renters to meet the costs of a new rental bond when changing tenancies to provide cost of living relief and assistance to eligible renters while the portable bond scheme is developed and implemented.