

## Question on Notice

No. 1559

Asked on Thursday, 11 December 2025

**MS W BOURNE** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH (HON S O'CONNOR)—

QUESTION:

With reference to data published in The Courier-Mail on 29 November 2025 having revealed that 490,000 Queensland rental households are experiencing rental stress (meaning they are unable to meet basic living costs after paying rent) and the particular pressures faced by households in the electorate of Ipswich West—

Will the Minister advise what actions the government intends to take to ensure Ipswich West renters can meet essential living costs alongside their rent, particularly in light of recent reductions to cost-of-living relief measures such as the vehicle registration discount and energy bill rebates?

ANSWER:

The Crisafulli Government recognises the very real cost-of-living pressures facing Queensland renters, including families in Ipswich West, after a decade of private market and social housing supply increasing far below demand which left Queensland with too few homes and some of the tightest rental markets in the nation.

Rental stress is not occurring in isolation – it is the direct result of a failure to plan for and build homes with policies that choked housing supply while demand surged. Queenslanders are now paying the price for this legacy of inadequate housing supply.

The median rent for a property in the Ipswich Local Government Area (LGA) increased 70% from \$300 per week in December 2014 to \$510 per week in December 2024.

To turn around the housing crisis, the Crisafulli Government is delivering one million new homes by 2044 including 53,500 social and community homes for vulnerable Queenslanders as part of our plan to unlock housing supply. To deliver these commitments, we're speeding up approvals, investing in long overdue enabling infrastructure, improving construction sector productivity, ramping up our social and community housing pipeline and delivering a legislative and regulatory environment built on stability and certainty to strengthen investor confidence in Queensland.

While working to fix the structural problems that created the housing crisis, the Crisafulli Government is providing practical support for renters who are doing it tough. Targeted assistance is available for households experiencing financial hardship, ensuring as much help as possible is directed to those who need it most.

The Department of Housing and Public Works provides a wide range of products and services to support and assist Queensland renters to access and maintain a tenancy in the private rental market.

Through the department's statewide Housing Service Centres, customers can access RentConnect services, including financial assistance such as Bond Loans, Tenancy Assistance, Rental Security Subsidies and other assistance, to access and maintain a private rental tenancy. These products also focus on early intervention to assist customers in sustaining tenancies, thereby reducing the risk of homelessness.

In 2025-26, as at 30 November 2025, the department has assisted over 14,700 households with private rental products and services at a total cost of \$31.8M, with 2,088 households assisted in the Ipswich region.

I encourage the Member to connect any of her constituents experiencing rental stress to our Ipswich Housing Service Centre, where they will be able to be provided housing help.