



Minister for Communities and Housing
Minister for Digital Economy
Minister for the Arts

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1 William Street
Brisbane Queensland
GPO Box 806 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
T: +617 3719 7170
E: communitiesandhousing@ministerial.qld.gov.au

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petition 3870-23 titled 'Housing Crisis in Queensland – the need for more public and social housing' which was tabled on 18 April 2023 in the Legislative Assembly. I note the views of the petitioners and appreciate the interest in the matter.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to addressing housing needs of Queenslanders. In October 2022, the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games hosted the Queensland Housing Summit, followed by the release of an Outcomes Report on 1 December 2022. The Outcomes Report includes a program of actions, backed by \$56 million in new funding, which focuses on expanding housing supply and increasing housing support for Queenslanders.

In March 2023, the Premier hosted a second Housing Roundtable and the Queensland Government announced:

- limiting rent increase frequency to once a year
- \$28 million boost to the Immediate Housing Response Package to provide emergency accommodation and rental support to help tenants keep a roof over their head, bringing the total investment in the package to \$54 million over two financial years
- \$3.9 million for food and emergency relief
- \$600 000 to work with the Local Government Association of Queensland to develop 38 Local Housing Action Plans with local governments
- land tax concessions for Build to Rent developments with a minimum affordable housing component
- launching the Housing Opportunities Portal for Queenslanders to submit ideas to increase housing supply
- proposed purchase of former National Rental Affordability Scheme housing in Townsville and South East Queensland.

This is on top of the Housing Investment Fund, which was boosted to \$2 billion as part of the Housing Summit, generating investment returns to support 5,600 new social and affordable housing commencements by 30 June 2027. This takes the Palaszczuk Government's investment in social and affordable housing to an historic level of almost \$4 billion, including work already occurring under the *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025* to deliver 2,765 social housing commencements by 30 June 2025.

The Queensland Housing Summit Outcomes Report also includes a commitment to increase land supply and enable infrastructure growth through conducting an audit of state government-owned land and buildings for opportunities for residential use; and partnering with local governments and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to identify similar opportunities for land and buildings owned by local governments and NGOs.

In addition to delivering social and affordable housing and supporting social housing tenants, the government offers a range of products and services that provide practical assistance to people to obtain and sustain an affordable private rental home or their own home, including through various loans and grants. If you or someone you know requires housing assistance, please contact your local Housing Service Centre. Centre locations and contact details are available at www.qld.gov.au/housing/public-community-housing/housing-service-centre or by telephone on 13QGOV.


The Palaszczuk Government is continuing to deliver modern and responsive rental laws that better protect renters and rental property owners and improve stability in the rental market. The Palaszczuk Government has taken decisive action to address community concerns about the impact of current market conditions on renting households in Queensland. On 18 April 2023, Queensland Parliament passed amendments to Queensland's rental laws to limit rent increase frequency to once a year for all tenancy agreements from 1 July 2023.

Limiting rent increase frequency will help improve consumer protections while Stage 2 rental law reform is progressed to build on the record of strong, balanced rental law reform delivered in Stage 1.

On 18 April 2023, the Palaszczuk Government released the Stage 2 Rental Law Reform Options Paper to seek feedback on options to change Queensland's rental laws and identify the impacts across five legislative reform priorities. All Queensland renters, rental property owners and managers and the Queensland community are encouraged to have their say to help shape a rental market for the future that works for every Queenslanders. Consultation on the Options Paper is open for six weeks and closes at 5pm, Monday, 29 May 2023.

I thank the petitioners for taking the time to raise their concerns and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Communities and Housing
Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts