

Minister for Housing

Your reference:

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petition 3875-23 titled 'Social housing availability' which was tabled on 9 May 2023 in the Legislative Assembly. I note the views of the petitioners and appreciate their interest in the matter.

The Palaszczuk Government is working hard to help more Queenslanders into safe, secure and affordable housing, sooner.

In December 2022, the Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, tabled the Queensland Housing Summit Outcomes Report in Parliament, following the Housing Summit held in October 2022. The Outcomes Report includes a program of actions, which focuses on expanding housing supply and increasing housing support for Queenslanders.

It is through this record \$3.9 billion investment in social and affordable housing, the largest concentrated investment in Queensland's history, that we will have commenced 13,000 new social and affordable homes by 2027.

The Immediate Housing Response for Families initiative continues to provide short-term accommodation, purchase of essential items and services, and tenancy assistance, with more than 5000 households helped since 1 July 2022.

Specifically on the Gold Coast, new homes continue to be delivered, including in Arundel, Coomera, Ormeau, Pacific Cove and Pimpama. Between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2025, 260 new social homes will have commenced in the Gold Coast region through a planned investment of \$70.4 million, supporting more than 225 full-time equivalent jobs. This is in addition to the 290 new social homes that are already commenced under the First Action Plan of the *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017–2027* in the Gold Coast region. This adds to the over 5,000 social housing homes on the Gold Coast.

This is in stark contrast to the former Newman Government who cut the social housing construction program by 90 per cent and in 2013 and 2014 financial year delivered no new commencements on the Gold Coast.

The department will continue to deliver against our targets utilising a range of procurement and delivery methods including traditional construction, modular methods of construction, relocations, and the purchase of existing dwellings from the open market in areas of need to increase immediate housing supply.

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

Yours sincerely

Meaghan Scanlon MP **Minister for Housing** 08/06/2023