

A powerful once-in-a-generation opportunity

Because home matters

Dear colleagues,

I wanted to share my optimism with you about <u>the Homes for Queenslanders</u> housing <u>p</u>lan, which was released in full <u>y</u>esterday.

Many of the important recommendations and changes that Q Shelter, our members and the wider sector have been advocating for over several years now received resourcing, funding and commitment from the government.

This is thanks to your efforts, participating in our policy and advocacy forums, and in ensuring that the vulnerable communities you represent have their voices heard. Thank you.

There is, of course, still work to be done, and we believe that there are still areas where policy shifts are needed to address long-term housing need and homelessness. We will continue to propose these solutions, based on research and evidence, at all levels of government.

It can be tempting at these times to either say that what has been delivered is not enough, or that it is too ambitious. on the contrary, I believe ambition is essential right now, as is the support of every leader in the housing system to ensure that the reforms we have won, will succeed.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to come together to make this suite of policies, investments and reforms shape Queensland's housing system for the better, long into the future.

Here is a small snapshot of the opportunities ahead of us, based on what was announced in the past week:

- Specialist Homelessness Services will all receive a 20% boost in funding, and the Brisbane critical response team will expand to all regions.
- Level of social housing stock restored, reaching 53,500 homes by 2046.
- Additional funding for tenancy sustainment.
- Expanded services and products for tenants, as well as reforms that will end rent bidding, offer portable bonds, and bond bridging loans.
- More land to be released for new private and social homes.
- Eight new youth foyers setup in areas of critical need around the state.
- An Inclusionary Planning Pilot Project.
- Infrastructure funding to incentivise infill and medium density development in high amenity areas.
- Mandatory housing targets under regional plans.
- Simplified approvals processes and resources to fast-track planning scheme updates.
- Support for the construction industry workforce.
- A registration scheme to monitor short-term rental housing.
- The introduction of 20-year management leases on new social housing and existing leases with community housing providers.
- Financial subsidies so more young people can access community housing.

We must ensure all areas of the sector have the system capacity to deliver this plan. Some of the responsibility now rests with us — the entire housing and homelessness eco-system — to do everything we can to help it succeed.

We will continue to include you all in the conversations and actions we undertake to progress these opportunities.



Frois Grighei

Executive Director

<u>Read more about Q Shelter's responses</u> to the Homes for Queenslanders plan.

Listen to Fiona's interview on ABC Radio's Brisbane Drive (starts at 1:38:38).