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Media Release – A call to maintain momentum

In the days before the State Budget and Budget Reply speech, Q Shelter calls for a commitment to momentum on some key measures.

'It is essential that the implementation of *Homes for Queenslanders* and *The Queensland Housing Summit Report* continue. The depth and breadth of housing system reforms are essential to future success in planning for population growth.

'Specialised plans to address the needs of <u>young people</u> and First Nations Queenslanders (<u>Our Place</u> Plan) also need the full support of all political parties.

'Recent data from applications to deliver homes under the Housing Australia Future Fund shows the housing system inclusive of community housing providers can deliver over 50,000 homes throughout Australia, including Queensland.

'This is significantly oversubscribed and is why Q Shelter is calling for the Housing Investment Fund to be doubled and for capital funding through Quick Starts to increase.

'The community housing industry has worked incredibly hard to generate as many proposals as possible to deliver on social and affordable housing targets. Now is the time to invest more so that these projects are possible now and soon. Without investment through government funding and subsidies, many of these projects will not progress.

We acknowledge the current constraints in delivering homes due to construction industry challenges. We urge greater focus from all housing system stakeholders to address these challenges immediately.

'That is why Q Shelter is calling for the use of modern methods of construction to be scaled up. More suppliers can assist if there is an investment guarantee. This is a genuine opportunity for Queensland to build decentralised factories to deliver homes at scale. It is also an opportunity to invest in the infrastructure to industrialise the delivery of components so that construction is faster and more cost-effective.

'Queensland has proven its ability to innovate and lead on important new technologies. The future of construction must include investment in decentralised factories that can deliver components and modular homes at scale. We need to engage the suppliers using modern methods of construction and involve them in a road map to scale.

'Our State can lead on this agenda, given the Federal Government's recently announced Advanced Manufacturing program and our strong regional footprint. There is an opportunity for Queensland to lead on this transformation, creating jobs, strengthening regional areas, and in the process provide people with real homes.'



Q Shelter is also calling for:

- Greater investment in the prevention of homelessness including through a funded, regionalised tenancy sustainment program
- Super-charging the capacity of community housing providers to grow the supply of social and affordable housing
- A new Housing Trust to capture funding from the community and philanthropists
- Further planning system reforms
- Private housing system measures including workforce housing plans and shared-equity products
- Expanded rental reforms including rental price increases limited to CPI
- Funded programs to support the involvement of people with lived experience of unmet housing needs and homelessness.

ENDS

All quotes can be attributed to Fiona Caniglia, Chief Executive Officer, Q Shelter.

Media comment

Fiona Caniglia, CEO, Q Shelter: 0400 196 492

Jackson Hills, Manager Policy and Strategic Engagement: 0422 395 842 Q Shelter Communications Team: 07 3831 5900 comms@gshelter.asn.au