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Media Release

Housing system solutions required

Queensland's housing crisis requires system-wide reforms says peak body Q Shelter.

'The causes of this crisis are complex and many. We need to address the challenge in a range of ways.' says Executive Director Fiona Caniglia.

'While COVID-19 and severe weather events have added pressure, they are not the primary cause of why there is not enough housing to meet demand.'

'We need a healthy housing system that ensures enough supply of housing to meet population demands to prevent a surge in need for social housing' says Ms Caniglia.

There is a range of critically important measures needed. An immediate Queensland Housing Summit is necessary to engage all key stakeholders, identify actions, allocate responsibilities, and implement solutions.

The solutions include:

- Identifying empty and underutilised properties that could be brought into the market as quickly as possible including through the provision of incentives
- Measures to incentivise the return of short-term rental properties to the private rental sector
- A State Government Agency to take leadership over the integration of housing system reforms across all State agencies that play a role in housing supply and affordability
- Increased funding and an ongoing funding pipeline for social and affordable housing (a pipeline beyond short-term funding cycles) including increased opportunities to leverage assets and debt finance growth
- A greater role for community housing providers in delivering social and affordable housing
- Targets for all residential development based on population demand, including specific targets for social and affordable housing
- More innovation in build-to-rent initiatives that offer security of tenure and include social and affordable housing
- A strategic land-bank for residential development inclusive of social and affordable housing through a coordinated effort involving all tiers of Government and other sectors.
- Accelerated planning system reforms
- A uniform approach to enabling secondary dwellings, across all Local Government Areas, that can be used more flexibly
- A strategy to address the impacts of housing being used for short-term rentals rather than long-term homes
- Tenancy law reforms that improve security of tenure and prevent displacement of existing populations and escalating rental costs leading up to the Olympics





- A guarantee that Brisbane 2032 will prevent negative impacts on housing affordability, supply and access, and result in a net increase in rental properties including social and affordable housing.

“There has never been more willingness across sectors to work together on housing supply and affordability. We need to see community, government and business leaders come together and drive solutions so that more Queenslanders have a home’.

‘We must solve the housing crisis so that housing is not a barrier to people relocating to take up the job vacancies we know exist, in this low unemployment environment.’

‘The biggest reason to advance a Summit with multi-sectoral participation is because housing is a complex challenge, and we need to coordinate our efforts for the sake of people who are genuinely suffering.’

‘Housing is a fundamental need and right. And evidence shows entire societies benefit when everyone has safe and secure housing. We can’t afford to see some groups in the community permanently anxious about whether they can find a home, or if they have a home whether they can afford to keep it. The impacts will be felt through generations as children grow up in households facing ongoing insecurity with disruptions to school and neighbourhood connections.’

Q Shelter’s full policy position is available [here](#).

[Q Shelter’s framework for ensuring a social inclusion legacy from Brisbane 2032 is available here.](#)

For more on Q Shelter head to: www.qshelter.asn.au

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