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## Housing Trust welcomed in Brisbane 2032 legacy engagement

Affordable housing advocates have welcomed a housing trust being included in the next round of Brisbane 2032 legacy planning after the latest consultation paper was published by the Queensland Government on Friday.

Q Shelter's Executive Director, Fiona Caniglia, said a housing trust is a vital legacy. It is encouraging to see it cross its first hurdle towards being included in the Brisbane 2032 Legacy Plan.

'Ending homelessness and creating an inclusive Queensland can only be addressed if we act now to create the momentum needed to embed a housing trust as part of the Brisbane 2032 legacy framework.'

'The current housing crisis is well documented. In this context, Brisbane 2032 is both an opportunity and a threat,' Ms Caniglia said.

'Without fail, mega events impact housing markets. Without the legal framework to prevent excessive rent increases, the growing number of people in Queensland who rent their homes in the private market will be vulnerable to displacement'.

Q Shelter notes that the surge workforce from infrastructure projects, combined with a myriad of factors attracting people to Southeast Queensland, creates significant risk to the affordability and availability of existing tenancies.

'The Legacy Plan must seize the opportunity to also secure social and affordable housing as other cities have. We must learn from places like Glasgow that ensured a social and affordable housing legacy from the Commonwealth Games village.'

'There are two critically important measures that we need to guarantee as a minimum legacy: a housing trust and the transfer of homes from the Athletes' Villages into the ownership and management of community housing providers so these homes are available in perpetuity to vulnerable households.'

Ms Caniglia said that establishing a Queensland Housing Trust will capture value from the procurement of goods and services related to the Games while also providing a vehicle for community and business involvement in solving the housing crisis.

'These contributions, held in perpetuity, can then fund growth in the community housing sector, which would provide long-term benefits for people experiencing housing stress and homelessness'.

'2032 is a light on the horizon for some but will entrench housing inequality unless there are intentional strategies to capture value, ensure social and affordable housing supply as a direct legacy, address rental market inequalities, and reach seriously for innovation'.

Q Shelter also notes that a housing trust is a way of ensuring that benefits from Brisbane 2032 are distributed throughout the State.

'A Housing Trust for Queensland could target the whole State given the push factors from the SEQ housing market are already impacting regional areas.'

Q Shelter and other peaks say the Queensland Housing Trust would represent a timeless innovation that would only strengthen over time, as has been the case in the United Kingdom, where housing trusts and their associated programs deliver huge numbers of affordable homes and housing support services to assist vulnerable people.

For instance, the community housing sector in the United Kingdom has grown through a combination of Government funding, philanthropy, and debt-finance. Peabody Group, which began through philanthropy, is responsible for over 104,000 homes across London and surrounding areas. Of these, 88% are affordable rentals and shared ownership.

'A Trust will provide measurable outcomes for housing solutions; it will leverage hosting the games in a way that benefits current and future generations and provide a tangible legacy measure for Government,' said Fiona Caniglia.

## **ENDS**

### **Media comment**

Q Shelter Executive Director, Fiona Caniglia: 0400 1964 92

Q Shelter Manager of Strategic Engagement and Policy, Jackson Hills: 0411 395 842

Q Shelter Communications Team: 07 3831 5900 [comms@qshelter.asn.au](mailto:comms@qshelter.asn.au)

### **About Q Shelter**

For over 35 years, Q Shelter has worked as a peak body to improve housing outcomes for Queenslanders. Over this time, we have remained an unwavering voice for solutions through advocacy, strategic engagement and capacity building.

Besides influencing solutions and policy, Q Shelter provides professional development and shares resources to assist other organisations to be effective, so that our combined capacity to respond to housing need is strengthened.