

## **20 SEPTEMBER 2023 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Q Shelter urges greater scale and acceleration of housing supply to needed as part of the Housing Roundtable to meet current acute needs**

Q Shelter, Queensland's peak body working to ensure every Queenslander has a home, has prepared for today's Housing Roundtable with a focus on acceleration and greater scale of immediate housing responses to address the needs of people who are currently in need of housing.

'Since the Housing Summit, a significant range of initiatives and mechanisms have reached inception and will be realised in the medium to long term' says Executive Director Fiona Caniglia.

'Because it takes time to plan and build homes, it is justifiable that we apply the focus and expertise of the Housing Round Table now on scaling up and accelerating immediate supply to meet population needs.'

'The longer-term measures are vital and improved planning with population housing targets is essential to future success. We are all struggling however with how to accelerate housing supply for people who need a home today. This has been exacerbated by the rising costs of construction and finance, together with workforce constraints.'

Q Shelter acknowledges the Queensland State Government's investment in immediate responses to families and other households who need emergency accommodation. However, more housing supply is still needed, and Q Shelter is going to the table today to suggest a renewed focus on how to accelerate additional homes through modern methods of construction on identified land options.

'If we had lost thousands of homes through disaster events, we would have a clear mandate to reconstruct those homes as quickly and affordably as possible. For people without a home or whose housing situation is unaffordable, it is a crisis and a disaster that can impact education, employment and overall well-being. Children are heavily impacted by exposure to such adversity.'

Q Shelter commends the level of senior support and concurrent activity to address housing needs in Queensland.

'The level of focus is extraordinary and the combined efforts to deliver outcomes from all levels of Government, the private sector and community sector is unprecedented. It is just

that housing supply takes time, and we need some immediate focus on scale and speed through innovation and partnerships to address the challenge right now’.

‘There is an ongoing role for all members of the Housing Roundtable to be focused on successful implementation. There are plans and recommendations but now we need expertise in the room to really solve implementation challenges and solve the ‘now’ challenge of more housing as quickly as possible.’

## **ENDS**

### **Media comment**

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