

**29 August 2024**

## Media Release – Momentum on housing policy and investment essential to ending homelessness

Q Shelter, the peak body for homelessness and housing in Queensland, urges all major parties at the national level to stay the course with current policy and investment in housing supply.

Q Shelter CEO Fiona Caniglia made the call this week, highlighting the important role the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) plays in delivering much-needed housing.

“The recent HAFF round resulted in community housing providers active in Queensland making submissions to deliver more than 4000 homes. This is at a time when at least 25,000 households need access to social and affordable housing in Queensland.”

“Q Shelter supports various reforms to achieve a healthy housing system so there is enough supply to meet demand. We also know that specialised and subsidised housing is vital. We need a supply pipeline with stable policy settings including capital funding and subsidies that are available over time.”

“This allows organisations to plan their future pipeline of homes to meet the needs of people excluded from the housing market.”

“There is no community unaffected by the housing supply crisis in Queensland. There is strong community support for investment in solutions to homelessness and to housing system reforms that make it fair for everyone.”

“At the moment, key workers essential to health, education and community support services are increasingly unable to afford to live anywhere near work. Many industries struggle to secure a workforce linked to housing supply challenges.”

“Housing affordability is impacting more people than ever, and we cannot build a healthy economy without treating housing as essential infrastructure.”

“Market-driven approaches to housing supply won’t meet all the needs of people on lower to middle incomes. We need policy and investment in social and affordable housing so that we don’t see increases in complex homelessness which becomes more and more difficult to solve.”

“In Queensland, we have the benefit of bi-partisan support for many policy and investment measures seeking to address housing needs and homelessness. It is a time of crisis. We need elected leaders to unite and help the entire housing system achieve the momentum needed to ensure diverse needs are met.”

“We are becoming increasingly concerned about indications of potential changes to new housing policy systems and structures before they have had enough time to take effect and be thoroughly evaluated.

"Constant policy changes are unlikely to help us achieve our goals more quickly and can also shake confidence among potential investors and delivery agencies including private developers, the construction industry and community housing providers."

"We call on all federal political parties to agree on key reforms so that momentum builds, and delivery of homes is guaranteed now and well into the future."

## **ENDS**

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

### **Media comment**

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### **About Q Shelter**

For more than 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.

In addition to 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.