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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Opposition to housing density and diversity prolongs housing crisis**

Queensland's peak body working to address unmet housing needs and homelessness is appealing to every candidate in the up-coming State Election to avoid campaigning against housing density and diversity.

"We need many types of homes throughout the State to address current housing shortages," says Q Shelter CEO, Fiona Caniglia.

"Every campaign in opposition to housing supply is failing all Queenslanders and especially those that need homes.

"We need every leader at every level of government to educate their constituencies and lead them in an understanding about the impacts of population growth on housing supply.

"We can have all the greatest plans, but if every project of scale is defeated at the community level, then we won't reach the housing targets both major parties have set that are needed to address community needs.

"Short-term political benefit risks long-term housing solutions. This is where all candidates need to offer their support for greater housing density and diversity so that more people have a home and those homes are close to infrastructure, including transport and other services."

Over the past 18 months, significant progress has been made in the housing sector by various organisations, including peak and industry bodies, local governments, and housing providers. The SEQ Regional Plan (2023 Update) established a framework based on Queensland's projected population growth until 2046. Many councils are currently discussing the necessity for increased housing density and diversity in their communities, and there is a need for strong leadership on these issues.

"We are disappointed whenever we hear an example of communities who organise against housing supply, and who ask future elected leaders to back a policy that will never achieve much-needed housing targets.

"People with a home need to consider the needs of people now and in the future. Young people today feel completely excluded from the opportunity to own a home and they face frequent moves as renters throughout critical life stages. Every move costs money and uproots people from connections, services and proximity to schools and employment.

“We strongly urge all candidates contesting the 2024 State Election to see the bigger picture and lead on this issue rather than follow negative sentiment that fails a growing number of people in need.”

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

**For further comment, interviews or more information:**

[Fiona Caniglia](#), Chief Executive Officer: 0400 1964 92

[Jackson Hills](#), Manager of Strategic Engagement and Policy: 0411 395 842

[Q Shelter Communications Team](#): 3831 5900.

**About Q Shelter**

[Q Shelter](#) (Queensland Shelter) is the peak body for housing and homelessness in Queensland. For more than 35 years, Q Shelter has worked 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.