

**19 December 2024: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Statement on City of Moreton Bay council decision

The following statements are attributable to Q Shelter Acting CEO Jackson Hills, in response to the recent decision by the City of Moreton Bay regarding people living in public spaces.

“We know there is an unprecedented level of housing need and homelessness in our communities across Queensland right now, and the City of Moreton Bay is no exception. Unfortunately, the projections are that this will continue to be the case until we get significantly more social and affordable housing across Queensland over the next five to ten years.

“Q Shelter is working with all local governments to consider possible options to manage this current challenge while we wait for delivery of much-needed housing and support services.

“We appreciate that homelessness and rough sleeping is a highly complex issue, particularly when also managing public safety considerations. But the challenge remains that these highly vulnerable people are living in public spaces because they have nowhere else to go.

“We would hope that City of Moreton Bay has exhausted all options in working with the community services sector and housing and homelessness networks to assist with housing support challenges for people sleeping in public spaces, particularly for those with companion animals before punitive measures are being applied.

“Q Shelter has previously recognised the City of Moreton Bay’s leadership in developing strategies to increase social and affordable housing in the region in the long-term. We implore all Queensland local councils to continue to work with our sector, the state government, and local networks, to assist people experiencing homelessness and living in public spaces in getting the support they need right now.

“This latest development just highlights the severity of the deepening crisis we face not just now, but in the years to come, and we must work together to solve this community challenge.”

**ENDS**

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

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[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 organisations to be effective, so that our combined capacity to respond to housing need is strengthened