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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Missing middle housing key to solving housing crisis

Review into Low-to-Medium Density Residential Zoning welcomed by housing peak body Q Shelter

Queensland's peak body working to address unmet housing needs and homelessness welcomes Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner's announcement of the review into Low-to-Medium Density Residential (LMDR) Zoning.

Q Shelter CEO Fiona Caniglia remarked on the announcement made by the Lord Mayor in recent days, saying the decision to review the current Brisbane City Council rules demonstrated the need for flexibility and innovation to solve the housing crisis.

'Brisbane is home to many, however declining housing affordability is forcing people to leave the region and preventing others from finding a place in Brisbane to call home.

'This impacts younger people trying to find a home to buy or rent. It forces people further away from employment opportunities. Many people are in a permanent cycle of uncertainty as they face difficulty finding, getting, and keeping a home.

'Solving the housing crisis will take leadership and courage. There is no single measure that will solve everything. That is why we need various mechanisms such as optimal zoning for housing growth in locations such as Brisbane, where there is high amenity through proximity to employment, transport, and services.

'We are urging people to consider the needs of future generations who have no hope of secure and affordable housing unless we all commit to genuine solutions.

'We hope the review helps to identify opportunities for housing supply, making the best use of existing infrastructure,' Ms Caniglia said.

Q Shelter is concerned that fear and growing opposition to housing density and diversity will make housing targets impossible to achieve and increase economic and social pressures on families and young people who are already struggling with the cost of living.

'In the lead-up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games, the risk of displacement across the region is high, unless we can achieve enough housing supply to

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meet demand. That requires innovation and reform to greatly and sustainably increase housing supply where it is needed.

'We need to listen to younger people about their housing needs. We need to imagine what a life of permanent housing insecurity will be like for people we rely on to deliver key services, and who are the workforce for industries such as childcare, aged care, tourism, hospitality, and trades.

'We urge the wider community and media to engage in constructive debate about the future of housing. We face a future where people are pushed away from social support and into areas where the ongoing costs of housing are higher because of the time and expense involved in longer commutes and separation from infrastructure and services.'

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

For further comment, interviews or more information:

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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