



2026-27 Queensland Budget: analysis for the housing and homelessness sector

Q Shelter is pleased to provide our Members, sector partners and stakeholders with analysis of the 2026-27 Queensland Budget. We have highlighted key investments and measures relevant to the housing and homelessness sector, and noted where these measures align with those proposed by Q Shelter in our [2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission](#).

Overall, Q Shelter welcomes the continued and enhanced funding towards housing and homelessness solutions as outlined in this Budget, including the confirmation of funding over the next three years for services such as outreach, coordinated homelessness response, and tenancy sustainment. We also welcome enhanced capital funding to deliver new homes, and acknowledge the continued commitment to redesigning homelessness programs.

However, significant work is still needed for system-level reforms to facilitate genuine prevention against people falling into housing instability and homelessness in the first place.

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Highlights

Budget highlights for housing and homelessness include:

An additional \$1.024 billion over four years to deliver social and community homes against the target of 53,500 homes by 2044.

- **Q Shelter's Budget Submission called for \$2 billion in annual capital funding increased from \$500 million beyond the forward estimates.**
- **Our submission also called for a greater focus on affordable housing delivery by Community Housing Providers (CHPs).**
- There is continued commitment to \$500 million ongoing baseline capital funding from 2030-2031. This commitment beyond the forward estimates is unique to Queensland. Q Shelter is seeking more clarification about the breakdown and targeting of these funds.

Confirmation of commitment to delivering homes in partnership with Community Housing Providers, with CHPs playing an enhanced role.

- **Our submission called for a facilitated mix of housing outcomes in key locations involving partnerships with CHPs.**
- **We also called for accelerated stock management transfers targeting CHPs ready to scale and where increased stock management transfers will help to achieve internal capability and capacity for growth activities.**

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Confirmation of eight new Youth Foyers distributed throughout Queensland.

- We will be working with FoyerInvest and the Queensland Government to ensure this investment is consistent with the fidelity of the Foyer model, to ensure that these homes and the support provided are based on proven and accredited service delivery models.
- **Q Shelter's submission called for the fast-tracking of eight additional Foyers in five years.**

Confirmation of the commitment to Supportive Housing in Southport and East Brisbane.

- More work is needed to identify additional sites based on population-based estimates of need for Supportive Housing.
- **Q Shelter's submission called for additional supportive housing across major population centres, and various Q Shelter submissions have called for more Supportive Housing in the lead up to the 2032 Games, to prevent homelessness.**

\$450 million for homelessness responses, supporting continuity of service delivery for frontline services.

- This includes funding for peak and industry bodies, outreach, tenancy sustainment and the coordinated housing and homelessness response. This funding is across three years until 2028-2029.
- **Q Shelter called for continued funding for additional measures such as outreach and tenancy sustainment.**
- **We also made submissions to achieve the continuation of the Service Integration Initiative with a stronger focus on systems level interventions aimed at prevention.**
- **Our recommendations have been to lock in five-year funding terms for all Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) to achieve service continuity and staff retention.**
- Q Shelter will continue to advocate to the Queensland Government to increase the indexation rate for NGO funding to be more reflective of the true cost of wages and service delivery for sector organisations.
- **Our pre-budget submission proposed the continuation of Immediate Housing Response (IHR) in the forward estimates while longer-term, preventative measures are developed. Q Shelter is currently working with IHR providers and the Queensland Government to understand 2026-27 Budget impacts on this program, and is collaborating with these stakeholders to ensure all options are considered to achieve long-term sustainable housing solutions for families and individuals currently supported by IHR.**

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\$6.4 million over four years, and \$1.6 million ongoing to support the regulation of community housing, disability housing, retirement villages, residential parks, and residential services.

- **Q Shelter's submission recommended the one-year enhancement for the Regulator from 2025-2026 be locked in and recurrent.**

\$83.4 million over three years to continue private rental market measures.

- **Q Shelter's submission called for continued investment in immediate responses while system redesign geared for prevention is successfully designed and implemented.**

Confirmation of an additional \$163 million in 2026-2027 to support first home ownership through the Boost to Buy home ownership scheme.

- This provides up to 30% equity contribution for new homes and 25% equity contribution for existing homes.
- **Q Shelter called for Boost to Buy to be scaled with more targeting to specific household types. We will be urging monitoring to understand wider system impacts.**
- **Q Shelter also called for further exploration of Community Led Housing Models.**

\$72 million over four years for the boosted \$30,000 First Homeowner Grant, which was due to revert to \$15,000 on 1 July 2026.

- Monitoring will be important to understand and respond to system-level risks.

Wider measures to assist with the cost of living are welcome, however, Q Shelter stresses the financial pressure for families and vulnerable individuals is worsening.

- This requires more coordination across the tiers of government to consider how more targeted measures to address poverty and disadvantage could be embedded.
- Q Shelter notes measures such as legislation to protect reduced public transport fares, continuation of vouchers for sport, and an extra \$50 per week to support families with back-to-school costs.
- There is also a 3.4% increase to the electricity rebate scheme for eligible vulnerable households.
- **Q Shelter called for a poverty reduction plan to achieve genuine intergenerational change, enabling more children to thrive.**

Q Shelter notes the \$3.5 billion investment in the delivery of the 2032 Games Athletes' Villages in partnership with the private sector.

- We continue to engage with the Queensland Government about how a genuine housing supply legacy from the 2032 Games can be achieved, given the level of community investment.
- **Q Shelter has called for a housing legacy and the prevention of displacement in the lead up to the 2032 Games.**

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Reflections on strategic directions

Q Shelter welcomes funding continuity and enhanced capital funding for homes. There remains significant work to achieve system-level reforms that facilitate genuine prevention.

This requires system realignment and reform to achieve a healthy housing system where supply meets demand, with adequate investment and policy settings to achieve social, affordable and supportive housing in key locations, especially when government-owned land is part of the mix.

It also means investing in a statewide tenancy sustainment support program to ensure that people sustain their housing outcomes with integrated assistance across varied domains.

The allocation of \$450 million to continue vital homelessness responses is welcome. We understand that the intention to redesign how homelessness programs are delivered in the future will inform future investment beyond the next three years. We are seeking greater clarity on the specific breakdown of these funds.

Q Shelter cautions that while immediate needs remain high, it will take a concerted effort across systems to design and achieve genuine prevention against people falling into housing instability and homelessness in the first place.

The emphasis on constructing social homes is welcome and understandable, however, we highlight there are many households relying on faster delivery of affordable housing in the right locations, to ensure people have appropriate, secure and stable homes in communities close to where they work, and close to services and infrastructure. We will be working collaboratively with government to encourage an integrated housing strategy to address housing needs across the state, with specific measures to achieve specialised types of housing responsive to the needs of vulnerable Queenslanders.

We acknowledge funding has been allocated to the implementation of reforms due to the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry report. We are seeking to understand how these reforms can better respond to the needs of families who are currently at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Queensland cannot afford to sit back and wait for prevention to emerge. It requires a determined and courageous approach to system reform, and the alignment of investment and action to those reforms.

Q Shelter urges the Queensland Government to work closely with peak and industry bodies and the wider sector to strategically design and implement genuine prevention measures embedded across systems, and informed through evidence-based design of programs.

Whilst housing supply is critical to prevention, so too is how families and children are assisted with a housing guarantee, food security, high-quality support, an education guarantee, and additional specialised measures to address other needs such as disability and mental health.

If we start now to prevent homelessness through bold system reforms, we can expect to see a reduction in complex adult homelessness, intersection with justice systems and in child safety system involvement.

Q Shelter notes commitments to child safety system improvements; however, we have called for greater investment in intensive family supports before children and families become engaged in this system. High-quality, intensive support from pregnancy onwards could prevent children experiencing homelessness and adverse childhood events, and over time, reduce complex homelessness among adults exposed to the child protection system.

Q Shelter also welcomes the Government's stated intent to focus on strengthening prevention and early intervention, and supporting people into long-term housing outcomes. The budget's increase in Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) responses, Youth Foyers and supportive housing projects are examples of the proven transformative mechanisms that Q Shelter has long advocated for on behalf of the housing and homelessness sector.

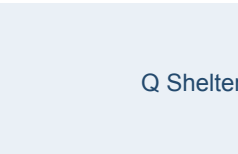
Finding the balance of increasing proven prevention measures so more people do not fall into housing need, while still providing the crisis support for those currently facing acute housing needs, will be vital.

Queensland's Community Housing Providers and Specialist Homelessness Services have a track record of providing the best care and long-term support for people in need, and it is pleasing to see a commitment to both groups in this budget.

Any increase in social and affordable housing, overall housing supply, and private rental assistance will contribute to alleviating the pressure many are feeling to be able to afford a safe, stable and secure home.

Q Shelter will continue to work with the Queensland Government to advocate for five-year contracts with flexibility to respond to current, emerging and future community needs. We need our sector to have certainty while we continue work together to deliver services and housing supply in the most flexible way possible.

[You can read the Q Shelter 2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission on our website.](#)



Joanne Carigla

Chief Executive Officer

