

# Queensland Housing Supply Expert Panel Communique

## Wednesday 6 December 2023 – Meeting #4

### Meeting Purpose

The Queensland Housing Supply Expert Panel (the Panel) met formally for the fourth time this year on Wednesday, 6 December 2023.

The meeting continued to provide an opportunity for the Department of Housing (DoH) and Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP) to brief and update the Panel on a number of significant government priorities.

The Panel also continued to provide timely insights, perspectives and advice to the Departments on specific housing and planning matters.

### Panel discussions

The work DoH is progressing with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to develop co-designed, place-based and community-led Local Housing Plans to respond to local housing challenges and priorities, was presented to the Panel. The Panel noted DoH's commitment to continued engagement with these communities through the *'Our Place: A First Nations Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2024 – 2027'*, and highlighted opportunities for Prescribed Body Corporates, local governments and DoH to work on the development of wider housing options on available land across country.

With key work happening at federal level, DoH briefed the Panel on the outcomes and commitments from the Housing and Homelessness Ministerial Council held on 20 November 2023, noting that the Queensland Government continues to advocate for a fair share of funding to reflect the complexity and high cost of service delivery in Queensland. The National Housing and Homelessness Plan also featured on the agenda, including advice that more than 500 submissions were received by the Australian Government on the Issues Paper, which are now being considered to inform development of the Plan.

The Panel was briefed by DoH on the progress of the Queensland Housing Plan, a commitment made by the government to develop a 20+ year housing plan for Queensland. The plan commits a focus on:

- Home ownership
- Supporting an end to homelessness by ensuring specialist homelessness services are appropriately resourced and fit for purpose
- Cheaper homes closer to where people live and work
- Supporting renters

- Building enough homes to meet demand
- Planning for Queensland's growth

DoH advised that ongoing sector feedback and input received from the Housing Summit and Roundtables continue to inform the development of the whole-of-system housing plan.

A summary of achievements in implementing the outcomes from the October 2022 Queensland Housing Summit was shared with the Panel. The Panel noted the good outcomes that have already been delivered and that there is a lot of further work underway. As part of this update, DoH confirmed that there is a strong pipeline of projects that are tracking well to meet the targets for delivery of social and affordable housing in Queensland. This included the opening of the second round under Quickstarts Queensland on 1 December 2023 inviting registered community housing providers and partner organisations to bring forward proposals for capital grant funding to increase the supply of social housing in target regions.

On the planning front, DSDILGP updated the Panel on implementation of *ShapingSEQ 2023*, the South East Queensland Regional Plan, and in particular implementation assurance work underway, which is focused on standing-up new governance arrangements.

An update was also provided by DSDILGP on the *Housing Availability and Affordability (Planning and Other Legislation Amendment) Bill 2023*, which was approved to be passed by the State Development and Regional Industries Committee with five recommendations. On 13 November 2023, the Panel was invited by the Committee to convey their thoughts on a range of issues, including new State Facilitated Assessment pathways for well-located housing, prioritising social and affordable housing, inclusionary planning and uplift of density as in other states' jurisdiction. The Panel expressed its appreciation at being consulted on this important piece of legislation.

Other matters considered by the Panel included priority areas of interest, for which briefings will be organised.

### Matters for advice

The advice recently provided by the Panel to DoH on options to improve housing supply and diversity in regional Queensland (to address actions identified in Local Housing Plans) generated an in-depth discussion during the meeting, with further clarification to be

provided by the Panel out-of-session on specific strategies for regional and Indigenous communities.

Following DSDILGP's meeting with the Panel in November 2023 to discuss proposed indicators for inclusion in the Land Supply and Development Monitoring (LSDM) report expected to be published in 2024, the Panel was given an opportunity to further review and provide further feedback on the draft *ShapingSEQ 2023* Indicator Dictionary.

### **Comments from Panel Chair, Julie Saunders**

The panel has been busy supporting both Departments with advice on a range of initiatives as outlined above. The work aligns with the key priority areas identified by the panel being:

- Social and Affordable Housing
- Regions
- Land Supply/Planning

Detailed advice was also provided as part of the performance metrics for *ShapingSEQ 2023* and has informed further refinement, particularly in relation to the transition from the current LSDM to the new monitoring regime.

The Panel also requested a briefing on the draft Housing Plan, which was noted.