

NATIONAL HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS AGREEMENT

Report against Queensland Bilateral Schedule E3

Reporting period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Overview

1. This Report, prepared by the Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW) to monitor progress under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA), fulfils the annual reporting requirements per clauses 12 and 13 of Schedule E3 and brings together existing, non-financial reporting to reduce duplication of effort.
2. Part 3 of Schedule E3 requires that the Queensland Government report on the implementation of the following initiatives which comprise Queensland's housing strategy and homelessness strategy for the purposes of the NHHA.
3. The following tables provide an update on these commitments as at 30 June 2024, with department names reflecting those in place for the 2023–24 financial year.

Housing and homelessness responses

In 2023–24 the Queensland Government:

- Delivered 1,315 social homes over the 12 months to 30 June 2024, 457 (53 per cent) more than in 2022-23.
- Delivered 64 affordable homes.
- Awarded contracts for the commencement of 1,846 social homes and 188 affordable homes, including 1,088 in partnership with a community housing provider.
- Released the \$350M Incentivising Infill Development Fund on 10 June 2024, which closed within two weeks after receiving more than 220 applications with the potential to support more than 12,000 new homes and 4,000 lots.
- Commenced work on the new Distinctly Queensland Design Series with the Queensland Government Architect to expedite the delivery of new homes with a focus on viable, gentle density products.
- Completed three new domestic and family violence shelters in the Darling Downs region and two in South East Queensland with construction of a new shelter in North Queensland region to commence in 2024-25.
- Consulted with the community housing sector on the terms of the Draft Master Agreement, with further work planned to refine the terms of the agreement to meet the requirements of the Department and community housing providers.
- Developed a new Community Housing Rent Policy to align rents charged in community housing with public housing, for implementation from August 2024.
- Under the Coordinated Housing and Homelessness Responses (CHHR), 13 Care Coordination Facilitators operated in 12 locations (Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay, Brisbane, Redland, Logan, Ipswich, Toowoomba and the Gold Coast), with statewide backbone support delivered by Q Shelter, and the 'Know By Name' methodology and 'The Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritisation Decision Assistance Tool' delivered by Micah Projects.
- 90 non-government organisations delivered 213 Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) across Queensland delivering 2,014 places of Temporary Supported Accommodation and other support services, including mobile support, outreach access and centre-based services.
- Continued to deliver homelessness initiatives which are partially funded by the NHHA, including:

- Queensland Corrective Services supports a state-wide network of Re-entry Advisors to deliver dedicated re-entry support to people exiting correctional centres and at risk of homelessness including practical assistance to apply for, and secure post release accommodation.
- Queensland Health supports people experiencing homelessness through the Individualised Support and Rehabilitation Program, Homeless Health Outreach services and the provision of Homeless Emergency Department Liaison officers.
- The former Department of Child Safety, Seniors, and Disability Services delivered Youth Housing and Reintegration Services and After Care Service supports to young people aged 12–21 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, to secure and maintain suitable accommodation; and Transition Post Care Support for young adults with a disability exiting from the care of the State.
- Commenced implementing the new regional plan for South East Queensland in December 2023, which includes mandatory dwelling targets and sub-targets for dwelling diversity for each South East Queensland local government.
- Established and delivered enhanced frontline service responses for women and families experiencing domestic, family or sexual violence through a Specialist Response Team and Flexible Assistance Packages.
- Continued to deliver the Immediate Housing Response for Families (IHRF), which has assisted over 10,578 households since it commenced in July 2022 (as at 30 June 2024) and provided a further investment of \$184.1 million (excluding indexation) in 2024–25 and 2025–26, with an expansion of the IHRF to singles and couples from April 2024.
- As at 30 June 2024, more than 10,817 Queenslanders, including 3,837 First Nations people, have been assisted by Specialist Homelessness Services to maintain their tenancies since December 2022. This was through an \$18.3 million allocation to 17 non-government organisations to deliver enhanced tenancy sustainment services. Of the 3,306 Queenslanders with closed support periods, 96.6 per cent or 3,195 Queenslanders have exited into secure accommodation in 22 LGAs.
- Linked over 10,997 clients who are homeless or sleeping rough, including 4,140 people who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, with temporary emergency accommodation (as at 30 June 2024) through the \$8.5 million allocation to organisations to deliver after hours outreach in Brisbane, Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Townsville and Cairns.
- Committed \$160 million over five years, expanded eligibility and provided new ways to help renters with immediate support through enhanced and expanded private housing market products and services. During 2023–24, over 45,000 households were able to access or keep housing in the private rental market through products and services provided by the department.
- Continued uplift and industry innovation, through QBuild’s Modern Methods of Construction program, supported by three Rapid Accommodation and Apprenticeship Centres in Eagle Farm, Zillmere and Cairns (QRAAC).
- As at 5 July 2024, since the MMC program commenced in 2023:
 - 162 homes have been completed in factories (15 from QRAAC)
 - 138 homes have been delivered to site (64 social and 74 Government Employee Housing)
 - 116 homes have reached practical completion (64 social and 52 Government Employee Housing).

First Nations housing and homelessness responses

In 2023–24 the Queensland Government:

- Partnered with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland to support sector development with Indigenous Community Housing Organisations and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils and engaged with peak community housing organisations to design the features of Community Housing Futures.
- Committed \$10 million to support increased First Nations home ownership through subsidised modular homes in regional and rural locations, and resources and guidance to equip potential First Nations homeowners with the essential skills and knowledge needed.
- Committed \$19.5 million to strengthen the Indigenous community housing sector including delivering the Queensland Indigenous Community Housing Maintenance and Upgrades Grant program and reducing barriers and red tape for Indigenous community housing organisations aspiring to sustainable participation in the National Regulatory System for Community Housing.
- Committed \$20 million to develop a reliable and culturally safe service and support system.
- Worked to establish the Queensland First Nations Housing and Homelessness Partnership to govern delivery of First Nations commitments, share decision making with First Nations community-controlled organisations, and implement the principles of genuine partnership on funding decisions including under mainstream funding agreements.

Youth homelessness responses

In 2023–24 the Queensland Government:

- Delivered the Youth Housing Essentials program, targeted to support young people exiting care, youth detention and other government services.
- Delivered a new youth foyer in Townsville.
- Provided funding for 24 non-government organisations for the delivery of immediate supported accommodation, and funding for five non-government organisations allowing for 24/7 intake and support for young people.
- Renewed funding for existing mobile support and outreach access services for young people and provided 13 new mobile support services across 15 locations
- Commenced Early Action Group officers in Mount Isa and Cairns delivering multiagency case coordination for children and at-risk young people and their families.

Planning responses

In 2023–24 the Queensland Government:

- Passed and commenced the *Housing Availability and Affordability (Planning and Other Legislation) Amendment Act 2024* which amended the *Planning Act 2016* to improve the planning framework's response to housing supply and affordability challenges, including providing for the:
 - establishment of State facilitated development to fast-track development that is a priority to the State (for example, affordable housing)
 - ability to impose conditions requiring social and affordable housing in developments, and providing a definition of affordable housing, and
 - creation of new acquisition and easement powers to deliver critical development infrastructure.
- Released ShapingSEQ on 15 December 2023 which provides a long-term vision to shape South East Queensland's growth and includes a region-wide 20 per cent target for social and affordable housing. Work commenced to implement the priority actions.