

# **Ministerial Housing Council**

## **Wednesday, 26 April 2017**

### **COMMUNIQUE**

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Queensland's new Ministerial Housing Council (the Council) held its inaugural meeting in Brisbane on 26 April 2017, with members immediately identifying the ongoing threat to housing service delivery posed by uncertainty in funding.

The Honourable Mick de Brenni MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport, and the Council met to discuss and acknowledge the need for an increased supply of social and affordable housing in Queensland to meet population growth, current unmet demand and the diverse needs of the community.

Members welcomed the transformation in how the government does business with community housing providers and private developers to deliver new housing stock which is underway. The Better Neighbourhoods approach, initially being delivered in Logan, will leverage over 3,000 new homes by 2036 (110 in the next three years) through a precinct by precinct approach to development and neighbourhood revitalisation.

The Council is committed to continuing to engage with the Queensland Government about improving policy settings for affordable and accessible housing to support more Queenslanders being housed across the housing continuum.

The Council noted the lack of an agreed definition of affordable housing and criteria as a challenge in the supply of affordable housing properties and agreed the next meeting will consider a project proposal to frame further discussion.

In the context of future reform, members acknowledged the importance of delivering housing and homelessness services that are well integrated, provide genuine pathways for individuals towards independence, and which enable greater social and economic participation.

The Council noted the Queensland Government's recent achievements through the first round of Dignity First Fund where numerous skilled, committed and passionate organisations are making a difference in the lives of people experiencing homelessness.

The Council will reconvene ahead of the release of the 2017-18 Queensland State Budget.