

Irrelevant

**From:** Chris Taylor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 9:12 AM  
**To:** Jon Persley; Asaesja Young; Zoe Russell; Lane Calcutt  
**Subject:** Rent Caps HIB  
**Attachments:** RENTAL CAPS HIB.docx



**Queensland**  
Government

PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002

**Chris Taylor**  
Deputy Chief of Staff (Media)  
**Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

P 07 3719 7000 M **CTPI - s.47(3)(b)**  
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## RENTAL CAPS

We've put this on the table because we understand the pressure renters are under with exorbitant increases

People under extreme housing pressure are facing rental hikes when they sign a lease only to see another hike six months later

So that's why we are saying enough is enough

That's why we are considering measures to limit the frequency of such hikes and keep a fair and level playing field

It could be that we put a limit on rental increases to once a year

But everything is on the table and we will be providing more detail next week

More than 630,000 families in Queensland are renters

They are struggling and that needs to be addressed

We need to have this conversation and that's why we are proposing this and that's why we will consult

Released under RTIP

Irrelevant

**From:** Asaesja Young  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 9:31 AM  
**To:** Bryce Heaton; Bill Walker; Darren Roberts; Amy Hunter  
**Subject:** HIB  
**Attachments:** RENTAL CAPS HIB.docx

Hi all

Just one HIB for today.

DP will manage this but in case your ministers are asked.

Thanks, Asaesja



**Queensland  
Government**

**Asaesja Young**

Deputy Director – Government Media Unit  
**Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

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## RENTAL CAPS

We've put this on the table because we understand the pressure renters are under with exorbitant increases.

People under extreme housing pressure are facing rental hikes when they sign a lease only to see another hike six months later.

So that's why we are saying enough is enough.

That's why we are considering measures to limit the frequency of such hikes and keep a fair and level playing field.

It could be that we put a limit on rental increases to once a year.

But everything is on the table and we will be providing more detail next week.

More than 630,000 families in Queensland are renters.

They are struggling and that needs to be addressed.

We need to have this conversation and that's why we are proposing this and that's why we will consult.

4:20

4G



Courtney

Sorry just got hands full of  
CTPI - s.47(3)(b) and rental cap stuff -  
sure it will be fine but just  
check with K

Tue, 21 Mar at 1:12 pm

Released under RTIP/DPC

Tue, 21 Mar at 2:31 pm

Opposition (Janetzki) stood up today on rental caps with REIQ CEO.

Opposition says its a thought bubble that's dividing the factions, that it won't work, and that we're not investing time or energy looking into this properly. Just pitting the private sector against the government. Says taxation certainty is the future of housing.

REIQ CEO: Government MPs have shot down rent caps in parliament before. Main issue is supply issue and these proposed changes do not promote investor confidence. Most of rental supply comes from private investors so the gov is biting the hand that

DPC

Message



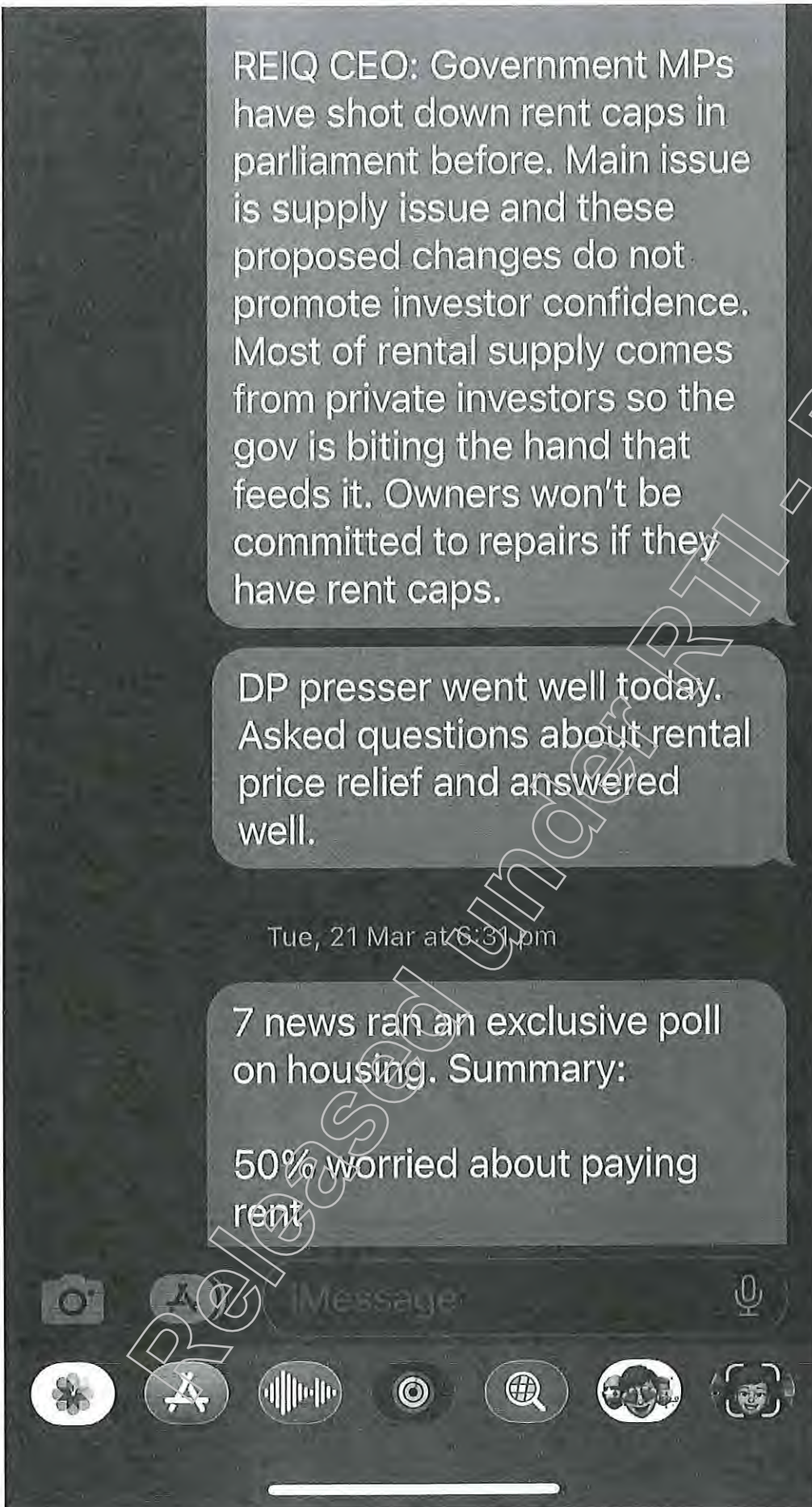
REIQ CEO: Government MPs have shot down rent caps in parliament before. Main issue is supply issue and these proposed changes do not promote investor confidence. Most of rental supply comes from private investors so the gov is biting the hand that feeds it. Owners won't be committed to repairs if they have rent caps.

DP presser went well today. Asked questions about rental price relief and answered well.

Tue, 21 Mar at 6:31 pm

7 news ran an exclusive poll on housing. Summary:

50% worried about paying rent



Nine did rental cap. Balanced wrap.

Irrelevant

LC

Irrelevant

LC

Wed, 22 Mar at 6:01 am

Premier

Irrelevant

P





Premier

What did Steven say yesterday on rental caps I have no summary

Kerryn Manifold

Can't have a conversation about cost of living without taking about tent.

Different to Greens because Greens were proposing a freeze at current levels.

We acknowledge that investors need a return on investment. Having a conversation about whether or not there should be limits over time.

Other jurisdictions have tied them to CPI - they're all things we want to discuss.

Appropriate to have a



We acknowledge that investors need a return on investment. Having a conversation about whether or not there should be limits over time.

Other jurisdictions have tied them to CPI - they're all things we want to discuss.

Appropriate to have a conversation about cost of living for 630,000 qldrs

Looking to discuss next week when we come together at Roundtable

KM

Also said we're taking into account evidence provided to previous committee consideration of Greens proposal.

KM

REPORTER:

Is it fair to say the government is committed to a cap? Are you trying to work out what that looks like?

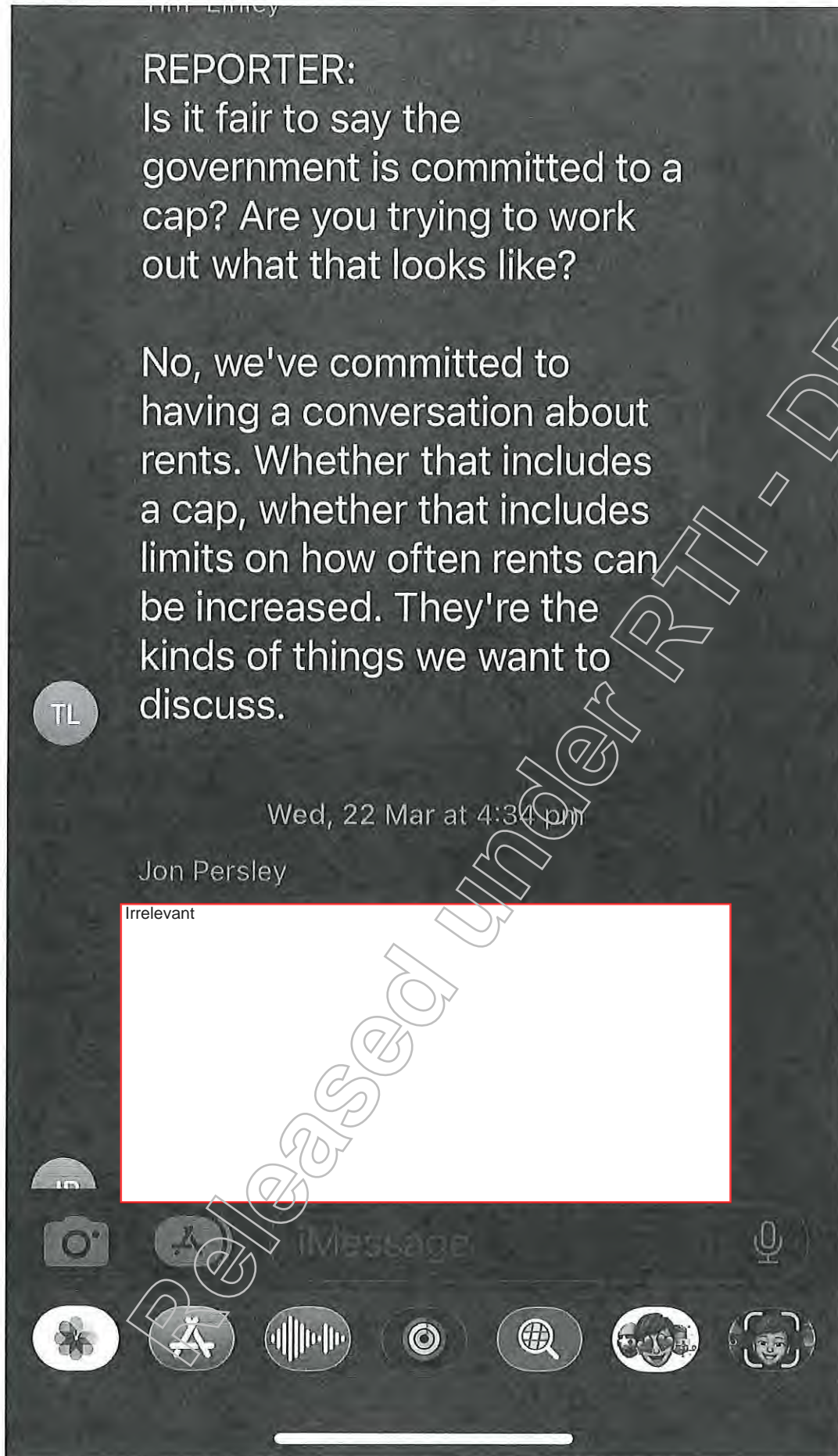
No, we've committed to having a conversation about rents. Whether that includes a cap, whether that includes limits on how often rents can be increased. They're the kinds of things we want to discuss.

TL

Wed, 22 Mar at 4:34 pm

Jon Persley

Irrelevant



Sent from my iPhone

the government is not investing time or energy looking into this properly. Just pitting the private sector against the government.

Says taxation certainty is the future of housing.

Gov is all chaos and no certainty.

Tue, 21 Mar at 18:22

Lane Calcutt

**Nine did rental cap. Balanced wrap.**

Irrelevant

LC

CT

**7 rental cap very balanced.**

Irrelevant

CT

**1 Reply**

Lane Calcutt

LC

Irrelevant

CT

Irrelevant

Asaesja Young

Irrelevant

CTPI - s.47(3)(t)

Zoe or Court  
could mention at presser to journos.

Zoe Russell

Irrelevant

ZR

Rental cap Monday.

That's the current thinking. Will  
discuss more when back in the  
office.

ZR

CT

CT

That's perfect

Kerryn Manifold

FYI - more than 100 ppl here - a few  
community members from different  
organisations have turned up so very  
happy to have Government here and  
listenina

Zoe Russell



Irrelevant

Mon, 20 Mar at 14:13

Zoe Russell

Irrelevant



Mon, 20 Mar at 15:54

Asaesja Young

From Media :

Is possible to get detail on the rental cap stuff?

CTPI - s.47(3)(b)

Mon, 20 Mar at 18:01

Zoe Russell

Irrelevant

Released under RTI - DPC

#LIVE: Shadow Treasurer

@DavidJanetzkiMP and REIQ CEO

Antonia Mercorella are speaking at

Parliament House in Brisbane. [https://](https://t.co/0eaRchj1Va)

[t.co/0eaRchj1Va](https://t.co/0eaRchj1Va)



**David Crisafulli**

twitter.com

OPPO: Janteski says the government has had another "thought bubble" that is dividing the factions - based on previous statements/committee reports. Another thing proposed without thought.

REIQ CEO: Government MPs have shot down rent caps in parliament before. Main issue is supply issue and these proposed leg changes do not promote investor confidence. Most of rental supply comes from private investors so the gov is hiring the hand that feeds it. Owners won't be committed to repairs if they have rent caps.

Janteski says it will not work, and the government is not investing time or energy looking into this properly.

OPPO: Janteski says the government has had another "thought bubble" that is dividing the factions - based on previous statements/committee reports. Another thing proposed without thought.

REIQ CEO: Government MPs have shot down rent caps in parliament before. Main issue is supply issue and these proposed leg changes do not promote investor confidence. Most of rental supply comes from private investors so the gov is hiring the hand that feeds it. Owners won't be committed to repairs if they have rent caps.

Janteski says it will not work, and the government is not investing time or energy looking into this properly. Just pitting the private sector against the government.

Says taxation certainty is the future of housing.

Gov is all chaos and no certainty.



Irrelevant

Irrelevant

Tue, 21 Mar at 16:31

Lucy is chasing our hips before they take off tonight for tomorrow. Could we send her the ones from today and then resend new stuff in the morning?

There's only one Hib on rental caps but I've sent it

All good thank you!

Tue, 21 Mar at 17:42



Irrelevant

Wed, 22 Mar at 09:55

Irrelevant

Wed, 22 Mar at 20:29

CTPI - s.47(3)(b)

CTPI - s.47(3)(b)

Tue, 21 Mar at 06:27

CTPI - s.47(3)(b)

Sorry just got hands full of CTPI - s.47(3)(b)  
and rental cap stuff - sure it will be  
fine but just check with K

Tue, 21 Mar at 13:12

Irrelevant

Irrelevant

Irrelevant

Irrelevant

**From:** Courtney Thompson  
**Sent:** Friday, 17 March 2023 9:42 AM  
**To:** Phoenix Campbell; Natarjsha Kramer; Pema Bastin; Martin Philip  
**Subject:** Rental Caps

Hi team,

I've heard there is a potential rental cap announcement that can be made. Can I please get any details from your offices ASAP to inform our forward plan for next week? Sorry that I'm not

Will need some info (no matter how brief it is) by 12:30pm at the latest.

Thanks,  
Court



**Courtney Thompson**  
Senior Media Advisor (she/her)  
**Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

M [CTPI - s.47\(3\)](#) | E [courtney.thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:courtney.thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

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**From:** Courtney Thompson  
**Sent:** Friday, 17 March 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** @PremMediaOffice; @Premiers.Social  
**Cc:** Tam van Alphen; Chris Taylor; Jon Persley  
**Subject:** Prem  
**Attachments:** Premier's Communications Plan Mon 20 Mar to Sun 26 Mar (FINAL).pdf

Hi all,

Please see Prem's comms plan for next week attached.

Thanks,  
Court



**Courtney Thompson**  
Senior Media Advisor (she/her)  
**Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

M CTPI - s.47(3) | E [courtney.thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:courtney.thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

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SOCIAL MEDIA

TRADITIONAL MEDIA

SECONDARY CONTENT/OPS

Mon 20 Mar

Irrelevant

Tue 21 Mar

Wed 22 Mar

Thu 23 Mar

Fri 24 Mar

Sat 25 Mar

- Rental caps (TBC)

Sun 26 Mar

Irrelevant

- **SUNDAY MAIL:** Rental caps (TBC)

Irrelevant

**Ads This Week**

- Irrelevant

**PREMIER CONTENT**

TikTok  Reel

- Irrelevant

**FOLLOWING WEEK: 27 MARCH - 2 APRIL**

- Irrelevant
- Housing roundtable

Irrelevant

**From:** Media Reporters <mediareporters@premiers.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 3:31 PM  
**To:** External - Media Reporters  
**Subject:** [Transcript] Press Conference - Shadow Treasurer David Janetzki and REIQ CEO Antonia Mercorella re housing crisis  
**Attachments:** [Transcript] Presser - Shadow Treasurer David Janetzki + Antonia Mercorella, REIQ - 21 March 2023.docx

Good afternoon

**Transcript:** Please find a transcript of a press conference by Shadow Treasurer David Janetzki and REIQ CEO Antonia Mercorella this afternoon speaking about the housing crisis attached. *Video [here](#)*

**Key points:**

- Rent controls will make the housing crisis worse for renters
- The Housing Minister criticized rent controls last year
- A recent Parliamentary Committee report dismissed rent controls
- We need to increase housing supply
- The best way we can increase supply is through stable taxation and regulatory environments
- This government seems intent on shattering the confidence of investors
- Rent caps do not actually address the underlying issue of undersupply
- Virtually every leading economist in Australia and around the world say that rent caps do not solve the problem

Kind regards,  
Gary

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Queensland  
Government

**Gary Robertson**  
Media Reporting Officer | External Relations and Services  
**Engagement and Events**  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

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## Transcript

Event: Press conference, Brisbane

Speaker/s: David Janetzki, Shadow Treasurer  
Antonia Mercorella, REIQ CEO

Topic: Premier's consideration of private rent caps

Date: 21 March 2023

Duration: 17 minutes (approx.)

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*E&OE*

### **DAVID JANETZKI:**

David Janetzki, Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Investment and Trade. Thank you for joining us this afternoon.

I'm standing on the same piece of grass where I stood with Antonia, CEO of the REIQ, not more than six months ago when we were speaking out about the renter's tax, which would have put up rents in the middle of a housing crisis. And here we are six months later, speaking now about rent controls that would have the same impact.

We're here because we're all united by one purpose, and that is to get on top of a housing crisis here in Queensland. And we saw the QCOSS report yesterday, and they were alarming numbers. And no matter where you stand on the debate, fundamentally, good government and good industry outcomes mean more affordable and more available housing for those that are renting and those that are vulnerable. And we can't have a Queensland where, as the QCOSS report reported yesterday, there was a 22 per cent increase in the rate of homelessness. So it's important that we get that out front. That's our purpose.

But the Premier's thought bubble announcement yesterday on rent controls was beyond the pale. There appeared to be no consultation, no modelling, and very few people seem to have any details about it. And it was a reminder that when the Premier is cornered, she will say and do anything to get herself out of it. And the government knows rent controls...it's simple really, that rent controls will make the housing crisis worse for renters. And the government knows it. The Palaszczuk Government knows it. And how do we know that they know it? Well, the Ministers have been saying it. And I go back to a response from the Premier's Housing Minister to a question on notice from August last year, where the Housing Minister said, among other things:

*"What renters do not need right now is poorly thought through legislation that could see a further reduction in housing supply in the private rental market".*

That's the Housing Minister talking about rent controls last year. Most recently, we've got a Parliamentary Committee report chaired by the Labor Member for Mansfield, a Labor controlled committee. And in that report, the Member for Mansfield in her forward, the Labor-controlled committee said quite clearly:

*“Rent controls are not effective in improving housing affordability for renters, and can lead to distortions in the rental market, which result in poor outcomes for tenants, including reducing the stock of rental properties”.*

So that's the government's own words. And what we're seeing more and more now is chaos. And at a time, when the state needs steady and sober leadership, we are simply getting more chaos. And it's not the first time. So the Premier is abandoning her Housing Minister, the Labor Chair of this Committee. And it's a pattern now. The Premier, as we know, humiliated her Treasurer last year when it came to the renter's tax, abandoning him at National Cabinet. We've seen it with breach of bail, most recently, where the Premier had her ministers, the Left faction Attorney-General, the Police Minister, the Youth Justice Minister, all speaking against breach of bail – including, can I say, her factional ally, the Member for Sandgate just the day before, and then the Premier came out and announced that they would be taking our policy and adopting it.

How many Ministers will the Premier abandon before they say “enough is enough?” So let me finish by saying, from here what do we need? Well, we can't have more thought bubble ideas. We need to increase supply. And the best way we can increase supply is through stable taxation and regulatory environments. We know that increasing supply is what is needed, and that will protect renters and protect those that are most vulnerable. And that's where we need the government focused, because at the moment the Palaszczuk Government is all chaos and no stability and certainty. I'm going to ask Antonia to say a few things, and she'll take a few questions too.

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

Thank you. Well, I think it's incredibly relevant, as the Shadow Treasurer has just pointed out, the last time we assembled in this way we were talking about the proposed multijurisdictional land tax, which of course was introduced and subsequently repealed. This government seems intent on shattering the confidence of investors; those who do the heavy lifting when it comes to housing Queenslanders. It beggars belief that we're standing here today talking about a proposed rent cap. We've already seen multiple Bills go into Parliament proposing rent caps, and those bills have failed. This government's own MPs have themselves conceded that rent caps do not actually address the underlying issue that we are facing the source of the problem, which is an undersupply.

Again, I don't think we can underestimate the impact that these continuous proposed legislative reforms have on investor confidence. We've had COVID-19 where we've seen eviction moratoriums introduced. We've had stage one rental reforms with further stage two rental reforms yet to come. Last year, we had the multijurisdictional land tax threat and now today we are facing a proposed rent cap. There is no doubt that there will be a number of investors out there who decide that it's time to call it a day. And we've already seen that happening. The Treasurer last year at the housing summit conceded that there are some 55,000 rental properties that have gone missing, and they're not sure why. Well, I can tell you why. It's because investors have had enough. If we want to have a conversation about rent caps, we say let's have that conversation. Let's also have a conversation, though, about



capping interest rates on mortgages, let's have a conversation about capping Local Government rates, expenses that investors face. We've got to understand that here in Queensland, some 1.5 million people rent their homes and the vast majority of that rental supply, it does not come from the government, it comes from private investors. So this is government once again biting the hand that actually feeds it. And it's rather extraordinary.

We all know that there is massive, massive strain in the market at the moment. We haven't seen vacancy rates this low ever in the history of this state. We're not pretending that renters aren't doing it tough. They are doing it incredibly tough at the moment. We understand that. But what we also need to understand that those that are doing it toughest are the most vulnerable. Those that are mentioned in the QCOSS Report. We absolutely acknowledge that. And we understand and what we would say is, let's focus then on offering greater support to that particular section of the community who need it most. That's an intelligent response. That's a smart response. Rather than coming out with rent caps for the entire investor community.

Let's focus for a moment on the facts. The facts are this: if we did an analysis of rent rises over the last 10 years, what we will see is that rents haven't even kept pace with inflation. Those are the facts. We know that when we are in a healthy vacancy rate market, which is somewhere between 2.6 to 3.5 per cent, history tells us that rents stay very stable. What we have at the moment is vacancy rates that are well under 1 per cent. And this is why we are seeing what we are seeing and scarcity is what is causing this problem. And frankly, rent caps will only exacerbate conditions. And for those who say "Well, it's the REIQ saying that, it's the property industry saying that," of course that's what you would expect us to say, well don't take our word for it. Listen to virtually every leading economist in Australia and around the world and they will tell you that rent caps do not solve the problem. The only way of solving the problem that we face here today in Queensland is through focusing on supply.

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

What we have at the moment is vacancy rates that are well under one per cent. And this is why we are seeing what we are seeing and scarcity is what is causing this problem. And frankly, rent caps will only exacerbate conditions. And for those who say well, it's the REIQ saying that, it's the property industry saying that, of course that's what you would expect us to say. Well don't take our word for it. Listen to virtually every leading economist in Australia and around the world and they will tell you that rent caps do not solve the problem. The only way of solving the problem that we face here today in Queensland is through focusing on supply.

**REPORTER:**

What was your first reaction [inaudible]?

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

Well, we were stunned. We were stunned. Because only weeks ago, months ago, we went through a parliamentary process which saw yet another parliamentary committee saying in its report that rent caps don't work they don't address the underlying problem. Which is of course supply. So we were stunned and very surprised.

**REPORTER:**

One of the senior research fellows from UNSW actually says that rent regulations would encourage landlords to increase land use by having to [inaudible].

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

So sorry, could you repeat the question?

**REPORTER:**

A research fellow says that rent regulation would actually encourage landlords to increase land use by developing more [inaudible]?

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

I must confess I'm not familiar with that piece of research, I would need to look into the analysis a little bit closer to, to comment on it. But what I would say is that certainly, if we looked at other overseas jurisdictions where rent caps do exist, what we know is that it does result in owners not necessarily being committed to repairs and maintenance to upkeep. We know that it can lead to the degradation of rental properties. We know that it stifles mobility, people tend to stay put, the list goes on and on. And I think what we need to understand is we have seen a mass exodus here in Queensland. The reason we're facing the problem that we're facing is that we don't have enough investment properties. Between APRA intervention legislative and regulatory intervention, what we've seen is that investors have either sold, or indeed have transferred their properties to the short term or holiday letting market where there's virtually no regulation. And of course, there's an opportunity, arguably, to seek better commercial outcomes in some instances.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

I would welcome a conversation with the Deputy Premier about that, about price gouging. There's been a lot said about that. It's important to understand that here in Queensland, we have very strict laws governing residential tenancy relationships. We have a provision in our legislation that makes it very clear if a tenant believes their rent is excessive, they can go to QCAT to have that matter heard. That's a statutory authority. That's an independent process. And of course, we also need to understand that we already have a level of rental control here in Queensland. There are already statutory limitations on how many times one can increase the rent, together with a range of other requirements that must be met in order to increase the rent. And I think that's something that we should be more focused on. The government doesn't seem to want to be having that conversation. Again, the other point I would highlight is, we understand that in many instances, there are a section of the community who are experiencing very, very significant rent increases. And unfortunately, what we know it is it is the most vulnerable in our community who are experiencing those largest rent hikes. But again, it's important that we understand that there's a broader picture here. And so, when we look at the data, what we know is that the amount, the actual average of those rental prices is not nearly as high as many groups would have us believe. So it's really important. We

understand that this is an incredibly emotive issue but now is the time that we need to focus on the facts and look at the objective data.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]

**ANTONIA MERCORELLA:**

So as a general rule in Queensland, you are not allowed to, and you are not allowed to impose a rent hike any more regularly than every six months. In the case of a fixed term tenancy agreement, that needs to be clearly stipulated in the agreement at the outset. You still then need to give two months' notice prior to introducing that rental increase, and again, even in those circumstances, if the renter believes that the rent is excessive, they can make an application to QCAT.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]?

**DAVID JANETZKI:**

Look at the end of the day first Principles, rental price caps or price controls on rents simply will not work. And the government knows that. More than anything, what we need right now is to appreciate how the market works. And I'm not sure whether the government's investing any time or energy into understanding how it works. Ultimately, the private sector needs to be helping the government with this problem. And it's not a time to pit one side against the other. And that's what the government fails to understand. We need the private sector to be working and investing. And what we need right now is that stability and certainty that I've been talking about. And if you're investing in property, that's a long term asset class, right? That's, that's a long period of time that people are wanting to invest into. And that's why that's stability and certainty is regulatory certainty and taxation certainty is so vital to the future of housing in Queensland. And right now, the Palaszczuk government is all chaos, and no certainty.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]

**DAVID JANETZKI:**

Yes, and Antonia has said and described that there are, there are statutory provisions that protect in those environments. But more than anything, we need government working with the private sector, because renters, homeless and the vulnerable depending on it. And right now, we're getting thought bubbles of gold medal standard, badly, and what we need more than anything right now is that stability and certainty. A true consultation with the property industry, not pitting one against the other. And as I said, that QCOSS report tells us so much about what's at stake and to develop a longer-term property industry where rents are affordable and housing is available is the primary objective.

**[ENDS]**

Irrelevant

**From:** Media Reporters <mediareporters@premiers.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 27 March 2023 3:13 PM  
**To:** External - Media Reporters  
**Subject:** [Transcript] Press conference: Deputy Opposition Leader Bleijie and Shadow Housing Minister Tim Mander  
**Attachments:** [Transcript] Press conference - Deputy Opposition Leader Bleijie & Shadow Housing Minister Mander - 27 March 2023.docx

**Transcript:** Please find a transcript attached of a press conference held by Deputy Opposition Leader Jarrod Bleijie and Shadow Housing Minister Tim Mander earlier today. *Watch [here](#). Transcript attached.*

**Topics discussed:**

*Caloundra and Maroochydore Corridor Options Study (CAMCOS):*

- The Sunshine Coast railway line or CAMCOS (Caloundra and Maroochydore Corridor Options Study) has been long promised but not delivered.
- This is a vital piece of infrastructure that is needed for the 2032 Olympic Games.
- The Palaszczuk Government hasn't contributed a dollar to deliver the project.
- This project should have been delivered in the last 10 years by the Palaszczuk Government
- What we are seeing is blowout after blowout, including \$2.7 billion on the Gabba.

*Housing crisis:*

- The Premier promised that 80 prefab homes will be built by the end of this financial year. Today their announcement says that we might get two by June 23.
- There is no evidence there is one extra person in a granny flat since the last summit.
- The accommodation site at Griffith University still remains vacant.
- No construction on the two promised projects from the Housing Investment Fund has begun.
- Tomorrow's housing roundtable will be squeezed into the one-hour parliamentary lunch break.
- The Premier could spend three hours at a Rod Stewart concert last night, but can't afford more than one hour to talk about housing for Queensland's most vulnerable people.
- The Premier has backed away from rental caps.

Kind regards,  
Gary

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Department of the Premier and Cabinet

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Event: Press conference

Speaker/s: Deputy Opposition Leader Jarrod Bleijie  
Shadow Housing Minister Tim Mander

Airdate: 27 March 2023, 12.30pm (approx.)

Duration: 19 minutes 13 seconds

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*E&OE*

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Well, good morning. Jarrod Bleijie, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, joined by Shadow Minister for Housing, Tim Mander, who will make some comments with respect to housing in a short period of time. I want to deal with the Sunshine Coast heavy passenger rail – the CAMCOS corridor – long promised, but not delivered by the Labor Party to the Sunshine Coast residents. This is a vital piece of infrastructure that is needed for the 2032 Olympic Games. And when we talk about the CAMCOS corridor, we're talking about heavy passenger rail connecting Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore. This was one of the projects that was meant to be delivered for the 2032 Olympics.

Now I have just seen and watch the Premier's press conference this morning. She was asked quite clearly by a journalist "Will you guarantee that this heavy passenger rail to the Sunshine Coast will be delivered by 2032?" And she could not answer it. She refused to say it will be delivered. The next thing the Premier said when asked about heavy passenger rail to the Sunshine Coast, she said "We're looking at the priorities for Olympic infrastructure spend," which is code for me that the Labor Government do not think that the heavy passenger rail on the Sunshine Coast is now a priority for the Labor Government. The Premier then said "We're looking into it." Well Premier, I would say on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of residents on the Sunshine Coast, there has been too much looking into CAMCOS corridor. The time to look has gone. The time to do is now.

The LNP have committed our 50 per cent funding to the heavy passenger rail connecting Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore. The Federal Morrison Government committed the 50 per cent funding. The new Albanese Government have committed the same 50 per cent funding. The only one, the only government that hasn't contributed a dollar to deliver the heavy passenger rail on the Sunshine Coast is the State Labor Palaszczuk Government. And Mark Bailey this morning, trying to say that it was a Federal Government's responsibility and fault that this heavy passenger rail has not been delivered is a cheap shot. This is a state rail project. It should have been delivered in the last 10 years by the Palaszczuk Labor Government.

So what we're seeing now is blowout after blowout; Olympic infrastructure spent – \$2.7 billion on the Gabba and not a dollar to deliver the Sunshine Coast heavy passenger rail from Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore. So I'd say to the Premier, the time for looking at this project is well and truly passed. The time for delivering this project is now.

The Premier cannot guarantee this project before the 2032 Olympics. That is another broken promise from this tired third-term Labor Government. I'm going to hand over to Tim Mander now to talk housing. Thanks, Tim.

**TIM MANDER:**

Well, thanks Jarrod. Well, today the Premier slashed another housing promise. Just four months ago, the Premier promised that 80 prefab homes will be built by the end of this financial year. Today their announcement says that we might get to by June 23. Tomorrow will be the third housing summit that the government has hosted and what have they delivered from those summits? Well, they promised that more people would be in granny flats. There's no evidence that there's one extra person in the granny flat. They promised more accommodation at Griffith University. Today that site still remains vacant. They promised two projects on the northside of Brisbane from the Housing Investment Fund, and today no construction has started. This government is all talk no action. They are a complete chaos lurching from crisis to crisis.

Let me tell you how insignificant the Premier treats the housing crisis. It's our understanding that tomorrow's housing roundtable will be squeezed into the one-hour parliamentary lunch break. The Premier could spend three hours at a Rod Stewart concert last night, but can't afford more than one hour to talk about housing for Queensland's most vulnerable people. Happy to answer any questions about housing.

**REPORTER:**

Just on that, when you talk about those prefab homes, the Premier was outlining today that they were trying to get 75 this financial year. Is it the Opposition's understanding that the announcement made in December would deliver, first of all for you to open by Christmas, and then to deliver 80 in the financial year? Is that correct.

**TIM MANDER:**

That's correct. The Premier said that she would open this new facility before Christmas, and here today she opens at four months after. She also announced that they'd be 80 new prefab homes by June 2023. And today, she's backpedalled on that, and said there may be two. I mean, they're all talk and no action. This is just another example.

**REPORTER:**

Do you think it points to quicker [inaudible] the government work to free up that rental stock is a bad idea? Should it be [inaudible] Queenslanders are on the social housing register?

**TIM MANDER:**

Well, I think that's a very good point. We need to remember these prefab homes are for government employees. Now the question that needs to be asked is that will it mean extra houses in those regional areas? What's happening to the houses that are already there? Are they being sold simply to pay for these new ones? Will there be actually any increase in housing? If there's no increase of course that means there'll be no benefit to people looking for social housing.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] granny flats [inaudible]?

**TIM MANDER:**

Look, the announcement about granny flats was the granddaddy of all promises. I mean, it was a promise that was simply there to fill the airspace at the time to make it look like they had a solution. They have no idea whether their policy has made one difference. Minister after Minister has been asked this same question and they keep coming back and talking about the fact that they don't keep that sort of information. What is the use of making announcements when they can't evaluate their effectiveness? And the Deputy Premier did the same thing today.

**REPORTER:**

Tim, what's the Opposition's line on rental caps. We talked to the Premier today who was alluded to the fact that they will decrease that rental cap by 50 per cent, meaning one a year. What's the Opposition's line on that?

**TIM MANDER:**

Well, the Premier's announcement today is not about rental caps. She is simply twiddling around the edges with legislation that's already in place. I mean, the government is in chaos with regards to this announcement. The Premier makes the announcement last week, it'd be rental caps. The Deputy Premier comes in and clarifies that and says "No look, we're only doing it at the CPI." And then the latest announcement by the Premier, she's backed right away from that. So the government is in chaos about this. Everybody in industry that came out and showed and said how chaotic this was for the economy to have this indecision. And, again, they are chaotic with regards to their announcements.

**REPORTER:**

Do you think it makes sense with the prefabricated homes though to ship them out to frontline workers [inaudible] so it does free up housing for other people who need it?

**TIM MANDER:**

Look, we're in favour of any quick solutions to get houses built quicker. But there are lots of questions about this particular announcement, questions that I mentioned before. Will this result in a net increase in housing? And I think that question needs to be asked of the Deputy Premier and the Housing Minister because their record so far says that they simply make these announcements to fill the space.

**REPORTER:**

And the delays [inaudible] some of the targets have changed? Is that understandable considering pressures on the building industry [inaudible]?

**TIM MANDER:**

They are without excuse with regards to delivering on their promises. There is promise after promise after promise, which they are simply not delivering. Announcements do not house people. We must build new houses.

**REPORTER:**

Tim, can I just ask, [inaudible] who has come out criticising the government saying rental caps don't work. They're actually calling on abandoned and detached houses to be taken off that holiday and short-term rental market. Do you reckon that's a good idea.

**TIM MANDER:**

Sorry, what was that question?

**REPORTER:**

The detached houses. This peak body wants them removed from your Airbnbs and all those short-term rentals to give to people that actually need a home. Do you think that's a good idea?

**TIM MANDER:**

Look, we're open to any suggestions are going to accommodate more people. That's why we've got to make sure that we have more than an hour to have a roundtable about housing. I mean that the government is not treating this seriously. They never thought there was a crisis until the media and the Opposition dragged them to the table with regards to their first housing summit. So all those options need to be considered. We need to know what the consequences of those options are as well. But we're all in favour of whatever it takes to get people housed.

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Deputy Leader, what's your take on the rental cap? I mean, obviously, we'll be discussing... it seems that this week when we do get the floor and it's going to be a lot about rentals, about this crisis that we're currently in, but what's your stance on the cap issues?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Well, a housing crisis, which could have been mostly avoided if this government had have acted on land supply issues. We've seen a huge decline in land supply across the state. We've seen a government in denial for years that the housing crisis was upon us and on the rental caps you specifically asked about, who knows what's going to happen tomorrow, because every time the Premier has opened her mouth on rental caps, the story changes. One minute, it was full rental caps, then the Deputy Premier said it was CPI, which could be more than what the Premier was alluding to. Then they tried to walk it back and then Premier Palaszczuk gaslighted Queenslanders by saying it's Queenslanders' fault that no one understood what she meant when she said it. So look, if they say they're going to introduce legislation this week or talk about it, let's wait and see. Because until we've seen what the government have put forward, I just can't trust them because they've changed their mind on this very subject every time they've opened their mouth or a Minister's open their mouth



about it. The other question is, what does Cameron Dick think about all this because he's been off in India, away from all this chaos and confusion and crisis of the Labor state government, so it'd be interesting to see what the Treasurer thinks about this flip flopping of ideas. So we'll see what they introduced this week. And then we'll be able to properly ascertain and give comment on because at the moment, I just don't know. I could say we would support what they announced today. But it's likely going to change tomorrow, because the Premier will change her mind overnight. That's how they're running the show at the moment.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] So what would you do if you were an elected under an LNP government? How much is it going to cost?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Good question. What will we do if we were elected in 2024? Here's what we'll do. We will build this Sunshine Coast heavy passenger rail from Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore. It has been promised for over 20 years to the residents of the Sunshine Coast. We have a willing federal government of both political persuasions, former government and the new government willing to contribute 50 per cent of the funding. The Liberal National Team have committed to our 50 per cent share of the funding. Now we're talking about a \$3.2 billion project and when the case for heavy passenger rail fast rail to the Sunshine Coast was talked about, the proponent at the time, the money allocated was \$3.2 billion. And that was just for the Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore proponent, not the rest of the upgrade from Brisbane to the Sunshine Coast. Now they're doing a business case at the moment, I would simply say to Mark Bailey be upfront with people. Where's the business case at? Release the details, release the facts and figures at the moment, the only party the only political party that has not committed funding to the heavy passenger rail on the Sunshine Coast is the Labor State Palaszczuk Government. Everybody else has committed funding to it other than Annastacia Palaszczuk.

**REPORTER:**

Do you think there's a place in state parliament for Jonathan Sri? Jonathan Sri was asked, yesterday he was commenting a little bit tongue in cheek, potentially, a future in state politics, potentially looking at going for the Premier's seat of Inala. Do you think there's a place for him in state politics?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

I think we've got too many Greens in the parliament already at the moment at a state level. But Jonathan Sri and the Labor Party have so much in common, maybe he'll run for the Labor Party.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] business cases out last year [inaudible]?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Well see, this was what the state Labor government did. They announced another business case and millions of dollars for another business case. But everybody on the Sunshine Coast knows how vital and important the heavy passenger rail is to the Sunshine Coast community. The Sunshine Coast community don't need any more business cases to know that this is a project that is absolutely worthwhile and that should have been delivered by this Labor state government in the last 10 years of their office. We have committed absolutely to it because we know how important it is to the Sunshine Coast community. The Federal Albanese government have committed to it without the business case. So I'm saying you've got the Federal Labor government committed to it, the state Liberal National Party team, Premier Palaszczuk's got to get on board with the rail. They are absolutely off track with rail infrastructure in the Sunshine Coast and in Queensland.

**REPORTER:**

So you're clinging to it, no matter what cost?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

There has been business cases in the past, the project was estimated at \$3.2 billion, we've committed to 50 per cent funding. We see this project as a vital piece of economic opportunity.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Well, the Labor Party are doing the business case and like everything Labor Party touch at the moment, it's likely to go over. What we're simply saying is we'll work with the federal colleagues after October 24 next year to deliver the rail infrastructure. I'm not going to be stopped with supporting this project with this new business case. We need to get on board, we need to absolutely deliver this vital rail infrastructure before the 2032 Olympic Games. And I'm quite angry that the Premier could not say today that this rail infrastructure will be delivered before the 2032 Olympics because I see that as a vital connection between the Sunshine Coast community and the Brisbane community for 2032 Brisbane Olympics.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] if you are governing next year, the type of school was asked last week, when you take all these projects are you taking on the blowout costs as well? Because taxpayers are obviously wondering, you can't do it cheaper now?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

Look, what will happen is if in October 2024, if we're honoured by the people of Queensland to serve in government from November next year, then every one of those projects will be delivered by an LNP government. Make no mistake. Every single project will be delivered by an LNP government. Yes, they have blown out. But that is the reality of it. The Queensland...we can't blame Queenslanders for that. We're not going to deny Queensland as

the opportunity for road and rail upgrades because the Labor Party can't manage their budgets. So yes, we will take on those projects and yes, we will deliver those projects because Queenslanders cannot be blamed for this mismanagement of the Labor government in Queensland.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] are you saying you will accept the costs [inaudible]?

**JARROD BLEIJIE:**

There's quite a difference between for instance, if I can use an example, best case scenario with the Coomera Connector. Now that Coomera Connector is two years delay, has gone from six to four lanes and has a \$600 million budget blowout. Now only the Labor Party in Queensland would be the ones patting themselves on the back for delivering a project two years late, \$600 million over budget and from six to four lanes. But it has commenced. So there's projects that have absolutely commenced, and most of those projects on the list have absolutely commenced. So they will be in train in the next 12 months. Absolutely. And that's why we're saying we're absolutely committed to those projects. That Gabba, on the other hand, is a \$2.7 billion project blown out from \$1 billion. We believe that we should have an independent Olympic Delivery Authority, taking out of the hands of Annastacia Palaszczuk and Steven Miles and Mark Bailey. Independent experts should look at that project. So it's no secret there's been a blowout of the Gabba project. They will, we have asked the government to come clean with the costings, come clean with the economic modelling and they've not done that. Now make the point Annastacia Palaszczuk said last week, people, Queenslanders have just got to stop whinging about the Olympics. Sorry Premier, Queenslanders, you deserve an explanation from the Premier on projects like the Gabba that blowout from a billion dollars to \$2.7 billion. Queensland is owed an explanation from the Premier- why the blowout and all the economic modeling around the Gabba? And that's what we're asking for. So we're saying with the Olympics, there will be an independent Delivery Authority that will oversee and deliver this infrastructure.

All right. Thanks, everyone. Have a good day. Cheers.

**[ENDS]**

Irrelevant

**From:** Amy Hunter  
**Sent:** Friday, 24 March 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Pema Bastin; Martin Philip; @Premiers Media  
**Cc:** Hannah Jackson; Emilia Hutchinson; Bill Walker  
**Subject:** RE: Brief media request - deadline asap

Hi All,

Are you ok if I send **Media** the below?  
Have you got a list on who is attending the Roundtable?

Cheers,  
Amy

Wednesday 22 March, ABC News Breakfast:

**MICHAEL ROWLAND:**

You mentioned some of the villages being used for affordable housing. I want to ask you about that disturbing report from the Queensland Council of Social Services this week showing a staggering increase in the number of people homeless in your state. You're also considering at least a rental cap to try to address the housing crisis in your state. How far are you prepared to go on that?

**PREMIER:**

Yeah. Well, it's not a rental freeze, I think there's been a bit of misunderstanding there. But I acknowledge and I recognise that there are families out there who are experiencing rental stress. This is not just unique to Queensland; it's across the nation. And I'm hearing reports, staggering reports, that in some instances rents are going up \$200 or \$400 a week. This is putting unbearable pressure on families. So one of the ideas that we are canvassing is, for instance, what happens in the ACT is that their rents are reviewed every year. They're not reviewed every six months. So, look, all of these options we are considering. But I acknowledge there are 700,000 renters across Queensland and they are experiencing rental stress at the moment, and we got a housing roundtable next Tuesday. It's not the first one, it's the third one. So we'll be sitting down with all of the stakeholders and talking about these issues. Cost-of-living pressures are having a big impact on families and it's something that we need to discuss and talk about.

Wednesday 22 March, Press conference:

**PREMIER:**

Well, government will be making our decisions shortly. But of course, we've got the roundtable coming up where we will be talking with all of the stakeholders there. But what we are not talking about is a rent freeze. But what we do see in some other jurisdictions is that rents go up... not going to go up every year, they don't go up six monthly. So look, there's a lot of rental stress out there. And don't think for one moment that 700,000 people in the rental market are not feeling where sometimes you've got people putting up rents \$200 or \$400 a week, which is having a massive impact on people's ability to spend and pay for essential items. And also too, we've heard recent reports of some companies sending out to people saying now is your time to dramatically raise rents.

**REPORTER:**

So are you talking about more control or more safeguards for renters and trying to ensure that the small amount of rogue actors aren't rogue acting?

**PREMIER:**

Well, I think there is an issue with some people out there. There's been some reports recently about a company, a company particularly telling landlords to increase rents dramatically to take advantage of this particular crisis that we're in at the moment so look, we'll be having that roundtable next Tuesday and looking forward to hearing what people have to say.

Tuesday 21 March, Press Conference:

**REPORTER:**

Deputy Premier, how serious is the government about rental caps?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

You can't have a conversation about housing affordability and cost of living without at least talking about rents. 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home and nearly half of them are households with children. That is a massive component of the household budget. Rent is a very significant component of the household budget. For most of those households, it would be the biggest single expense. We've heard from families who have seen their rents increase 20 – 30 per cent. We've seen evidence of some property managers price gouging in the market. And so we want to have a conversation about what should be done about rents. I've heard stories of people having to move every six months, multiple times, because each lease their costs, each lease goes up so much that they're unable to stay in the house they live in. Of course, moving home is a great inconvenience, but also very, very expensive. So we've said that next week at the housing, housing round table, that we want to have a discussion about rents, and that everything is on the table. There's a wide range of options that could be considered. We could look, for example, at limiting the number of times per year, rents could go up, or we could look as other jurisdictions have at limiting the amount that they can go up, for example, tying them to CPI. So we've put those ideas out there. We've seen some of the stakeholder feedback, we expect to see more of that over the coming days

**REPORTER:**

How is this different to the Greens rent freeze proposal?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, we didn't support that proposal. But we've said that at the housing round table next week, we can have a conversation about what should be done about rents. And we will take the advice put forward, the ideas put forward, and make a decision about what is the most appropriate mechanism. We acknowledge and accept that investors need to see a return on their investment. And that in an environment where inflation is very high, where property prices have increased, and where interest rates are increasing, that investors will need to see an increased return. But whether there should be limits placed on that increase, or whether there should be limits on how often and how they can be increased? They're all the sorts of things we want to discuss and consider.

**REPORTER:**

How is it different, though, from the Greens proposal that the freeze for 24 months then after that a landlord can increase by two or four per cent?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We're not... It's different, we're not proposing a freeze.

**REPORTER:**

Is a freeze or a cap, isn't that a rebrand of a phrase?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

I understand their proposal was to freeze rents at that current levels. We're not suggesting that. We are suggesting that investors do need to see a return on their investment and that that will need to increase over time. But we're asking the question, should there be limits put on that? Either the amount it can increase or how often it can be increased?

**REPORTER:**

So are you not ruling anything out as such? Would you rule out a rent freeze?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We didn't support a rent freeze. And so there are good reasons to not support a rent freeze. I think it's highly unlikely that that is the approach that we would adopt. But you saw yesterday, the Premier suggests that perhaps there should be caps on how much it could rents could be increased. We've also heard people

suggest that there might be restrictions on how often rents can be increased in any given year. So, they're the kinds of things that we want to consider. Now you've seen, understandably, some stakeholders don't support that. Others do. And that's why it's not as simple as just saying, here's the thing that we should do. We want to... we want to express an understanding that 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home so you cannot, you cannot have a conversation about housing affordability and cost of living without having a discussion about what is the single biggest expense for 630,000 Queenslanders.

**REPORTER:**

If the cap was to be imposed, how much do you think is a reasonable percentage?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We've seen some other jurisdictions look to CPI or CPI plus as a measure of an appropriate cap. They're the kinds of ideas that we would like to see people discuss, tell us their thoughts on so that they can be taken into account in government's decision making.

**REPORTER:**

Is it fair to say the government is committed to a cap? Are you trying to work out what that looks like?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

No, we've committed to having a conversation about rents. Whether that includes a cap, whether that includes limits on how often rents can be increased. They're the kinds of things we want to discuss.

**REPORTER:**

How does this ensure investor confidence in Queensland if you've got hard working mum and dad, I guess, investors who are wanting to purchase rental properties but they're met with this?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Look, as I've expressed, we understand that investors need to see a return on their investment. That's why we're not entertaining some of the radical options that, as you've indicated, other political parties have put forward. But we do also understand that there has been some unscrupulous behaviour by some property managers. I wouldn't say the majority, but some and therefore, we think it's appropriate at a housing round table that we have a discussion about the cost of housing for 630,000 Queenslanders.

**REPORTER:**

Would you say that the ACT model [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

No, we don't have a favoured model at this time. Obviously, we've looked at other jurisdictions around the country and around the world. The ACT is one example. What we want to see now over coming days and leading into the round table is advice and feedback on whether and how we could do something to address that housing affordability uncertainty for the 630,000 Queenslanders and their families who rent.

**REPORTER:**

What the government is considering is pretty similar to Greens policy. Last month, we saw the government adopt the LNP's breach of bail [inaudible]. Is the government out of ideas?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

No, not at all. In fact, this is us floating some ideas, looking for feedback from Queenslanders so that we can address housing affordability for renters.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

It's pretty different. A freeze for two years is quite different to suggesting there should be limits on how much it can go up, don't you think?

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

I think they're pretty different.

**REPORTER:**

It's under the same umbrella though of [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Same umbrella [laughs].

**REPORTER:**

Are you expecting a decision on this before the budget? You're talking about a conversation, but [inaudible] have an actual decision?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, we have the housing roundtable next week. I think there's an intention for cabinet to discuss it on Monday. So, we're looking to be able to advance the discussion next week when we come together at the housing round table.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] a few weeks ago, your preference was for landlords to be [inaudible] more [inaudible] more reasonable. What's changed? And do you think you really need to stamp some authority on this sort of behaviour?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We've heard a lot of stories about the experience of renters. Families having to move every six months because the market keeps moving. Moving on them. Massive increases. We've seen some examples of property managers talking about how hot the market is, and that they really want to take advantage of that. So, there's been all of that feedback and discussion. There's been a significant focus on housing affordability from the perspective of supply and purchasing, but not a lot of discussion about housing affordability from the perspective of renters. As I say 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home, rent is the biggest part of their household budget. And we should be able to have a conversation about whether there should be any regulation of how much rents can go up and how often they can be increased.

**From:** Media [redacted] @abc.net.au

**Sent:** Friday, 24 March 2023 12:31 PM

**To:** Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

**Cc:** Hannah Jackson <Hannah.Jackson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Bill Walker <Bill.Walker@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

**Subject:** Brief media request - deadline asap

Good afternoon – seeking detail on the housing roundtable that's being held next Tuesday

- Who is attending?
- What is the goal of the roundtable?
- Will a rental cap / limit on increases be raised at the meeting?

Deadline asap

Thanks

Media [redacted]

Media [redacted]

Reporter

ABC Sunshine Coast

Kabi Kabi land

p: Media [redacted]

M: [redacted]



VIEW

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

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Released under RTI - DPC



## RENTAL CAPS

We've put this on the table because we understand the pressure renters are under with exorbitant increases

People under extreme housing pressure are facing rental hikes when they sign a lease only to see another hike six months later

So that's why we are saying enough is enough

That's why we are considering measures to limit the frequency of such hikes and keep a fair and level playing field

It could be that we put a limit on rental increases to once a year

But everything is on the table and we will be providing more detail next week

More than 630,000 families in Queensland are renters

They are struggling and that needs to be addressed

We need to have this conversation and that's why we are proposing this and that's why we will consult

Released Under RTIP

Irrelevant

**From:** Asaesja Young  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 2:52 PM  
**To:** Media @theguardian.com  
**Cc:** @Premiers Media; Amy Hunter  
**Subject:** RE: Media request: Guardian Aus  
**Attachments:** [Transcript] DP Press Conference - 21 March 2023.docx

Hi Media

Attached is the transcript from the Deputy Premier's stand up today where he talks about this topic.

I've pulled out the most relevant parts below.

**REPORTER:**

Deputy Premier, how serious is the government about rental caps?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

You can't have a conversation about housing affordability and cost of living without at least talking about rents. 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home and nearly half of them are households with children. That is a massive component of the household budget. Rent is a very significant component of the household budget. For most of those households, it would be the biggest single expense. We've heard from families who have seen their rents increase 20 – 30 per cent. We've seen evidence of some property managers price gouging in the market. And so we want to have a conversation about what should be done about rents. I've heard stories of people having to move every six months, multiple times, because each lease their costs, each lease goes up so much that they're unable to stay in the house they live in. Of course, moving home is a great inconvenience, but also very, very expensive. So we've said that next week at the housing, housing round table, that we want to have a discussion about rents, and that everything is on the table. There's a wide range of options that could be considered. We could look, for example, at limiting the number of times per year, rents could go up, or we could look as other jurisdictions have at limiting the amount that they can go up, for example, tying them to CPI. So we've put those ideas out there. We've seen some of the stakeholder feedback, we expect to see more of that over the coming days.

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**REPORTER:**

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[inaudible] a few weeks ago, your preference was for landlords to be [inaudible] more [inaudible] more reasonable. What's changed? And do you think you really need to stamp some authority on this sort of behaviour?

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We've heard a lot of stories about the experience of renters. Families having to move every six months because the market keeps moving. Moving on them. Massive increases. We've seen some examples of property managers talking about how hot the market is, and that they really want to take advantage of that. So, there's been all of that feedback and discussion. There's been a significant focus on housing affordability from the perspective of supply and purchasing, but not a lot of discussion about housing affordability from the perspective of renters. As I say 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home, rent is the biggest part of their household budget. And we should be able to have a conversation about whether there should be any regulation of how much rents can go up and how often they can be increased.

Thanks, Asaesja



Queensland  
Government

**Asaesja Young**

Deputy Director – Government Media Unit  
Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

M CTPI - s.47(3)(b)

1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002

Queensland

Good jobs  
Better services  
Great lifestyle

From: Media [redacted] @theguardian.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 March 2023 10:38 AM

To: Pema Bastin <Pema.Bastin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Media request: Guardian Aus

Hi Pema,  
Hope you're having a nice week.

With the premier announcing that the govt will "seriously consider rent caps" yesterday I wanted to check in and get a comment from the minister regarding the following;

1. What kind of rent caps is the government considering? Would they take a similar form to those proposed by the 'Make Renting Fair' campaign (i.e. capped at 10% above CPI) or the Greens (rent frozen for 2 years, then capped at 2% beyond that)?
2. Will the government make an announcement on rent caps following the housing roundtable next week?
3. Tenants Qld has called on the government to be resilient against pushback from the Courier Mail and real estate sector and bring in an evidence-based rent cap that will benefit tenants. What is your response?
4. Last year the housing minister labelled the Greens' rent freeze bill a "poor thought though" proposal and described it as "extremist". Does she stand by these comments?
5. Anything else you'd like to add?

My deadline is 2pm

Thanks so much

Kind regards

Media

Media

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Engagement: Press Conference  
Speaker/s: Deputy Premier Steven Miles  
Date: 21 March 2023  
Duration: 22 minutes

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*E&OE*

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, yesterday we were able to showcase the hundreds of highly skilled jobs Queensland is creating in supporting the nation's land defences. And today we are able to showcase the hundreds of highly skilled jobs here at Northrop Grumman supporting the nation's air defences. In particular, this amazing plane you can see behind me from the RAAF. This new Northrop Grumman facility is a long term commitment to Brisbane Airport to continue to grow the jobs here. And as I, continue to support the nation's defence forces. Anything on this?

**REPORTER:**

Deputy Premier, how serious is the government about rental caps?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

You can't have a conversation about housing affordability and cost of living without at least talking about rents. 630,000 Queenslanders rent their home and nearly half of them are households with children. That is a massive component of the household budget. Rent is a very significant component of the household budget. For most of those households, it would be the biggest single expense. We've heard from families who have seen their rents increase 20 – 30 per cent. We've seen evidence of some property managers price gouging in the market. And so we want to have a conversation about what should be done about rents. I've heard stories of people having to move every six months, multiple times, because each lease their costs, each lease goes up so much that they're unable to stay in the house they live in. Of course, moving home is a great inconvenience, but also very, very expensive. So we've said that next week at the housing, housing round table, that we want to have a discussion about rents, and that everything is on the table. There's a wide range of options that could be considered. We could look, for example, at limiting the number of times per year, rents could go up, or we could look as other jurisdictions have at limiting the amount that they can go up, for example, tying them to CPI. So we've put those ideas out there. We've seen some of the stakeholder feedback, we expect to see more of that over the coming days.

**REPORTER:**

How is this different to the Greens rent freeze proposal?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, we didn't support that proposal. But we've said that at the housing round table next week, we can have a conversation about what should be done about rents. And we will take the advice put forward, the ideas put forward, and make a decision about what is the most appropriate mechanism. We acknowledge and accept that investors need to see a return on their investment. And that in an environment where inflation is very high, where property prices have increased, and where interest rates are increasing, that investors will need to see an increased return. But whether there should be limits placed on that increase, or whether there should be limits on how often and how they can be increased? They're all the sorts of things we want to discuss and consider.

**REPORTER:**

How is it different, though, from the Greens proposal that the freeze for 24 months then after that a landlord can increase by two or four per cent?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

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**REPORTER:**

Community services and support committee looked at rent freezes and Corrine McMillan wrote that studies generally show that rent controls are not effective in improving housing affordability for renters, it can lead to distortions in the rental market, which results in poor outcomes for tenants. Do you agree with it?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

That's the kind of evidence that we will look to, the kind of research and expert advice that we will look to in considering what is the appropriate policy. Understandably, there are stakeholders who oppose that kind of regulation equally. There are stakeholders who support it because they've seen the experience of renters, of renters in Queensland and so this is simply a...

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] she's [inaudible] a stakeholder, she's one of the government MPs...

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

She was quoting an expert, and we will look to the evidence of experts as we consider the most appropriate policies.

**REPORTER:**

She also says incumbent tenants may experience some benefits in the short term, they do so at the expense of new tenants. Will this penalise people looking for extra places to rent?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We'll consider that, we'll take into account the impact this has on current renters and future renters. But the experience that we've heard from Queenslanders of their rents going up 20 or 30 per cent every six months and being forced to move every six months, we think it's fair to have a conversation about that.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible]

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, it's very hard to stop people moving to Brisbane, it is the best place in the country to live and to work. The economy here is booming. And so people are coming here to enjoy that lifestyle. We need to manage that growth in a way that maintains that lifestyle and continues to create jobs. And that's precisely what we're doing.

**REPORTER:**

Some stakeholders have said such a rent cap would lead to landlords turfing out tenants to bring someone else in on a higher fee. Would this mean you'd have to introduce a whole bevy of other protection mechanisms for renters?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We would certainly want to look at any possible unintended consequences like that. And we'll take that into account in determining what the most appropriate model is.

**REPORTER:**

When do we expect [inaudible] decision on [inaudible] housing summit next week [inaudible] the government is going to pursue?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, we certainly want to advance this discussion over the next week or so leading up to the summit. Whether we can settle on a position within that kind of timeframe, the next few weeks will really depend how that compensation goes.

**REPORTER:**

On the latest report from the IPCC, will the government increase its emissions reduction target?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

What you've seen us do recently is very substantially increase our renewable energy target, we will hit our 50 per cent renewable energy target two years earlier. And we have set new targets for 2032 and 2035. They're very, very significant steps to reduce the emissions, the carbon emissions of our state, and will make a very significant contribution to reducing overall emissions included in that modelling. And I think this has been overlooked, included in that modelling is a massive electrification of the vehicle fleet and powering that group, that vehicle fleet with green energy. It also includes exporting 100 per cent green energy to New South Wales, the maximum amount we're able to with the interconnector.

**REPORTER:**

But I'm asking about this specific emissions reduction target – 30 per cent by 2030 - is that actually going through to reduce [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

There are targets at this stage, the new renewable energy targets we have set will contribute towards the overall carbon emission reductions. You've also got very significant effort at the national level through the safeguard mechanism. So we'll continue to monitor both our current emissions, the impact of national policies, as well as our renewable energy and jobs plan.

**REPORTER:**

Just on [inaudible] you said, you discussions with investors or at least discussions about the proposal, is there an appetite from investors to sell to the government for the purpose of moving into affordable housing?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We have heard from some investors that they are interested in, in possibly selling into a, into a social housing provider. We will continue to work with the housing providers as well as

those landlords. For many of them, it will be a timely point in time to consider that investment and consider whether they want to hold that investment.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] imagine that'd be pretty healthy assets for them to hold on to, do you anticipate some difficulty acquiring them?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

The feedback we've had from investors is that they bought into that investment as a particular type of investment vehicle in the knowledge that it would be rent subsidised by the Australian Government, the point at which that stops is a sensible point for an investor to reconsider whether they want to continue with that investment. And this would be, would provide an opportunity for them to realise the capital gain that they've, that they've had, while also maintaining that home in the states affordable housing stock.

**REPORTER:**

[inaudible] thousands there, could easily end up in the billions. Do you have a target or a cap on how much you'd have to spend?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

We haven't got that far at this stage. We're really at the point of working with the housing companies and investors to determine how much appetite there might be both to sell into a housing company and how much interest there is from the housing companies.

**REPORTER:**

Is there an update on Burketown?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

I understand Burketown residents have begun being repatriated largely by helicopter now that the airfield, now that the airfield is open, we look forward to getting them into their homes as quickly as possible. That will take some time as many of their homes were inundated, we want to make sure we're putting them into accommodation that is suitable, 127 people have applied for access to disaster recovery grants. For a total value of \$44,000, we'll continue to support those residents. I'm meeting with the new CEO of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority this afternoon, talking with him, what else we need to do to support the people of Burketown.

**REPORTER:**

Deputy Premier, on youth crime, I don't know if you have an update about the procedural steps that have to go from now on after the legislation was passed by Parliament to actually getting it into law on the streets and into effect in a practical sense. Secondly, do you have any idea of a timeline about when the government hopes to see some sort of change as a result of these steps?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

I'm not across the...

**REPORTER:**

The first part is that obviously there needs to be a few boxes ticked. I think it's [inaudible] the week before the actual rules come into effect. In practical terms on the street, was there an update on that?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

No. Well, I expect it will probably go to Governor and council on Thursday. The Executive Council meets on Thursday. So that will need to happen before the powers are effectively in the hands of police and the courts. Of course, a lot of what we announced didn't relate to the Bill and the *Act*, so that can be implemented now. That's the extension of programs, expanding programs from where they have been successful. So that will continue to roll out. I'd be happy to get you a more detailed update.

**REPORTER:**

And just in terms of... How long before the government hopes to see the effect of these laws and programs on the streets and curbing the crime rate?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Yes. There's no silver bullet or magic wand, and so this won't change things overnight. But it will give police and the courts the tools they need to deal with serious repeat offenders, as well as put resources into the hands of those programs that we know can reduce reoffending and even stop offending in the first place.

**REPORTER:**

Just on housing again. Do you think the government's been effectively holding out new housing stock [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

As we've discussed, as we've seen at the Summit and the roundtable, increasing supply is complicated – particularly in an environment where building costs have escalated quite dramatically. And so we continue to work with Local Government, who are primarily responsible for approving lots and buildings with industry, who are primarily responsible for building the homes that we are looking for, as well as the Australian Government who have historically assisted particularly through rent subsidies and other measures. So it's complicated across the market. We play a small role in the public, social and affordable housing space. But that is only 5 per cent of the market. 95 per cent of people are in the private market, and the best way we can relieve pressure on the social and affordable end of the market is by avoiding pushing people out of the private market and into social and affordable housing.

**REPORTER:**

How was the decision made to [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

## Transcript

I can't give you a precise moment in time, Lydia. When we committed to the Olympics and Paralympic Games, we committed to making them a climate- positive games. That means doing the best job we can to make all of the games sustainable, including incorporating the best sustainability technology into our venues. The Gabba will serve us well past when we've committed to be net carbon neutral as a state, as a country, as a world. And I think it's important that we adopt the best sustainable building practices into the government.

**REPORTER:**

What proportion of that 170 per cent increase [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

So it was the second-largest component. So after cost escalation and labour costs, which was the vast bulk, the next most significant component was the adoption of green building standards and other design components.

**REPORTER:**

What is the breakdown of that though?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

I don't have the exact breakdown, but the vast bulk of the cost escalation...

**REPORTER:**

Is there a rough figure? 80 per cent, 50 per cent?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

With just cost escalation, it would have been more than \$2 billion – I'm testing my memory now – but close to two and a half billion dollars. So the vast bulk of the cost increase was building costs, inflation and labour costs, which we have seen over the last two years, and are projected to continue to 2026 when construction commences, right through to 2030 when construction is completed. So these costs will be incurred largely between 2026 and 2030.

**REPORTER:**

If that's the case, why haven't we seen a similar increase on the Brisbane Arena [inaudible]?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

Well, the Brisbane Arena project costs a similar amount to the Gabba. It's a similar scale project, and it has increased in costs over time since it was first proposed.

**REPORTER:**

An online poll shows roughly 90 per cent of Queenslanders don't support the planned demolition and rebuild of the Gabba and don't think it's valid for money. Has the government failed selling the Gabba to voters?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

## Transcript

The Gabba is the cornerstone project of Brisbane 2032. It's where the opening and closing ceremonies will be. It is where we will deliver the biggest urban renewal project in Australia. It will change the face of the city. It will bring together our biggest heavy rail public transport project Cross River Rail with Brisbane City Council's Brisbane Metro. It is a great project that makes great sense and will sit very well alongside the Brisbane Arena as the two big flagship projects of Brisbane 2032.

**REPORTER:**

Would you agree though that voters don't see it that way at this point?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

No. I think many, many people want to see a worldclass stadium at the Gabba. They want to see the Brisbane Lions play there, they want to go to the cricket. They want to see our athletes march out there in 2032, and that's what we're determined to deliver.

**REPORTER:**

South East Queensland hospitals are still facing problems with ramping. With the flu season around the corner, are you worried about how the health system will cope?

**DEPUTY PREMIER:**

This time of year there is always concern about the coming flu season. But what our hospitals are very good at is implementing their winter beds strategy. That makes sure they surge up supply of beds so that they can have throughput through their emergency departments. And while I'm not as closely engaged on the winter beds planning, as I have been in some previous years, I'm sure that work is well underway. Thank you.

[ENDS]

**From:** External - Media Reporters  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 March 2023 1:49 PM  
**To:** External - Media Reporters  
**Subject:** Courier Mail: Rental crisis Qld: Premier 'seriously considering' introducing rental price cap

<https://tinyurl.com/4vchyaia>

## Rental crisis Qld: Premier 'seriously considering' introducing rental price cap

Annastacia Palaszczuk revealed the state government is "very seriously" considering introducing a price cap on private rentals after a new report exposed the damning scale of Queensland's housing crisis.

James Hall

March 20, 2023 - 1:27PM

Annastacia Palaszczuk revealed the state government is "very seriously" considering introducing a price cap on private rentals after a new report laid bare the scale of Queensland's housing crisis.

The Premier also confirmed the government is in discussions to buy thousands of homes that will lose funding from the winding back of a federal support scheme.

Ms Palaszczuk said she was "very concerned" about the crisis in Queensland after it was revealed 150,000 households were in critical housing stress and the rate of homelessness soared 22 per cent since 2017.

She said sharp increases in rents had squeezed Queensland families, leading to the government considering reforms to cap rental prices which she said will be discussed at the Housing Summit roundtable meeting next week.

"This is a big issue for families," the Premier said. "They are constantly being faced with huge increases in rent and this is putting a lot of pressure on families.

"We're looking very seriously at how a rental cap can be put in place."

Before leaving office, the Morrison government began to wind back the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) but the Premier said she was in discussions with Treasurer Cameron Dick and Deputy Premier Steven Miles about acquiring those homes to continue support.

"There are over 5000 properties as part of that scheme – Queensland stands ready to purchase those houses," the Premier told reporters on Monday morning.

"What we do know is that we do need additional support from the federal government and where the federal government is stepping out, we are stepping up."

Mr Miles said NRAS was a time-limited plan to subsidise rent for 5000 properties with the looming end of the support approaching in the next couple of years.

"So they will go into the general rental market – the only way to avoid that is by stepping in with support of social housing providers and purchasing them, ensuring that they remain within the social housing stock," the Deputy Premier said.

"We are, as the premier said, discussing with those social housing providers exactly how we can do that."

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland chief executive Kevin Mercer said they had resorted to paying people's car registrations.



"Sometimes the best response we can provide is to pay someone's car registration so they can live and sleep in it ... to get them through as a temporary solution," he said.

Mr Mercer said homeless services had been full for a long time.

"The designated specialist homeless services are designed to be short-term accommodation," he said.

"We've got people that have been in our services for 18 months, almost two years, because there's nowhere for them to go. And we're not going to put them out on the street."

DVConnect chief executive Beck O'Connor said domestic and family violence was the main reason women and children were leaving their homes.

"For people who have escaped violence, there simply aren't enough safe, affordable and secure transitional and long term housing options particularly for families with large numbers of children," Ms O'Connor said.

"There are very few options for children and young people who are themselves independently needing to flee from violent homes."

Ms O'Connor said there was a threat of child safety intervention if they couldn't find a home to live in.

"All of which often forces people to accept unsafe accommodation options, or are forced to have an option to return to a violent home," she said.

"The housing crisis is so significant that even finding motels for motel vacancies on a daily basis for people fleeing in violence in many parts of the state is actually impossible.

"That's because of whole families who are now living in motel rooms and caravans because they simply can't find housing.

Ms O'Connor said they had supported more than 20,000 people who were experiencing domestic and family violence in the past six months with also more than 3000 requests for high security refuge and 5500 emergency nights of emergency accommodation in motels.

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**Queensland**  
Government

**Dom O'Regan**  
Media Reporting Officer, External Relations & Services  
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Department of the Premier and Cabinet

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**From:** External - Media Reporters  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 March 2023 1:49 PM  
**To:** External - Media Reporters  
**Subject:** Courier Mail: Rental crisis Qld: Premier 'seriously considering' introducing rental price cap

<https://tinyurl.com/4vchyaia>

## Rental crisis Qld: Premier 'seriously considering' introducing rental price cap

Annastacia Palaszczuk revealed the state government is "very seriously" considering introducing a price cap on private rentals after a new report exposed the damning scale of Queensland's housing crisis.

James Hall

March 20, 2023 - 1:27PM

Annastacia Palaszczuk revealed the state government is "very seriously" considering introducing a price cap on private rentals after a new report laid bare the scale of Queensland's housing crisis.

The Premier also confirmed the government is in discussions to buy thousands of homes that will lose funding from the winding back of a federal support scheme.

Ms Palaszczuk said she was "very concerned" about the crisis in Queensland after it was revealed 150,000 households were in critical housing stress and the rate of homelessness soared 22 per cent since 2017.

She said sharp increases in rents had squeezed Queensland families, leading to the government considering reforms to cap rental prices which she said will be discussed at the Housing Summit roundtable meeting next week.

"This is a big issue for families," the Premier said. "They are constantly being faced with huge increases in rent and this is putting a lot of pressure on families.

"We're looking very seriously at how a rental cap can be put in place."

Before leaving office, the Morrison government began to wind back the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) but the Premier said she was in discussions with Treasurer Cameron Dick and Deputy Premier Steven Miles about acquiring those homes to continue support.

"There are over 5000 properties as part of that scheme – Queensland stands ready to purchase those houses," the Premier told reporters on Monday morning.

"What we do know is that we do need additional support from the federal government and where the federal government is stepping out, we are stepping up."

Mr Miles said NRAS was a time-limited plan to subsidise rent for 5000 properties with the looming end of the support approaching in the next couple of years.

"So they will go into the general rental market – the only way to avoid that is by stepping in with support of social housing providers and purchasing them, ensuring that they remain within the social housing stock," the Deputy Premier said.

"We are, as the premier said, discussing with those social housing providers exactly how we can do that."

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland chief executive Kevin Mercer said they had resorted to paying people's car registrations.

"Sometimes the best response we can provide is to pay someone's car registration so they can live and sleep in it ... to get them through as a temporary solution," he said.

Mr Mercer said homeless services had been full for a long time.

"The designated specialist homeless services are designed to be short-term accommodation," he said.

"We've got people that have been in our services for 18 months, almost two years, because there's nowhere for them to go. And we're not going to put them out on the street."

DVConnect chief executive Beck O'Connor said domestic and family violence was the main reason women and children were leaving their homes.

"For people who have escaped violence, there simply aren't enough safe, affordable and secure transitional and long term housing options particularly for families with large numbers of children," Ms O'Connor said.

"There are very few options for children and young people who are themselves independently needing to flee from violent homes."

Ms O'Connor said there was a threat of child safety intervention if they couldn't find a home to live in.

"All of which often forces people to accept unsafe accommodation options, or are forced to have an option to return to a violent home," she said.

"The housing crisis is so significant that even finding motels for motel vacancies on a daily basis for people fleeing in violence in many parts of the state is actually impossible

"That's because of whole families who are now living in motel rooms and caravans because they simply can't find housing.

Ms O'Connor said they had supported more than 20,000 people who were experiencing domestic and family violence in the past six months with also more than 3000 requests for high security refuge and 5500 emergency nights of emergency accommodation in motels.

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Irrelevant

**From:** Pema Bastin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 10:43 AM  
**To:** Kerryn Manifold  
**Cc:** Martin Philip  
**Subject:** FW: Media request: Guardian Aus

Hey Kerryn

Give me a ring when you're free to chat about this – I understand that we're still referring these types of enquiries through to your office?

Thanks

PB

**From:** Media <[redacted]@theguardian.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 10:38 AM  
**To:** Pema Bastin <Pema.Bastin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Media request: Guardian Aus

Hi Pema,  
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4. Last year the housing minister labelled the Greens' rent freeze bill a "poor thought though" proposal and described it as "extremist". Does she stand by these comments?
5. Anything else you'd like to add?

My deadline is 2pm  
Thanks so much  
Kind regards

Media

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Queensland reporter  
The Guardian | Australia

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**From:** Pema Bastin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Chris Taylor; Courtney Thompson; Asaesja Young; Kerryn Manifold  
**Cc:** Martin Philip  
**Subject:** FW: Media request: Guardian Aus

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**From:** Asaesja Young  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Pema Bastin; Chris Taylor; Courtney Thompson; Kerryn Manifold  
**Cc:** Martin Philip  
**Subject:** RE: Media request: Guardian Aus

Thanks Pema.

We can sort.

**From:** Pema Bastin <Pema.Bastin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Chris Taylor <Chris.Taylor@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Courtney Thompson <Courtney.Thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Asaesja Young <Asaesja.Young@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Kerryn Manifold <Kerryn.Manifold@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Martin Philip <Martin.Philip@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
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**From:** Asaesja Young  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 12:05 PM  
**To:** Kerryn Manifold; Chris Taylor; Amy Hunter  
**Subject:** RE: Media request: Guardian Aus

Assuming it comes up with the DP, we can give **Media** some lines from the transcript.

**From:** Pema Bastin <Pema.Bastin@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 March 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Chris Taylor <Chris.Taylor@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Courtney Thompson <Courtney.Thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Asaesja Young <Asaesja.Young@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Kerryn Manifold <Kerryn.Manifold@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
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**From:** Media [redacted]@thedailyaus.com.au>  
**Sent:** wednesday, 22 March 2023 11:27 AM  
**To:** @Premiers Media  
**Subject:** Urgent: The Daily Aus - Media Request

Hi Shane,

Thanks for your text. As discussed, may I put the following to the Queensland Government? A response at your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Can the Government confirm that a potential rental cap wouldn't be a hard number (e.g. every property in a certain area couldn't be above \$700 a week), and would more likely work as a percentage or proportionate scale instead?

Thanks,

Media [redacted]

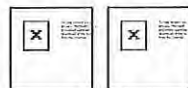


Media [redacted]

Journalist  
The Daily Aus

[redacted]@thedailyaus.com.au

[redacted]



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**From:** Asaesja Young  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 March 2023 3:45 PM  
**To:** Media @Premiers Media  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent: The Daily Aus - Media Request

Hi Media

Below is an excerpt of a transcript from the Premier earlier today on this:

**REPORTER:**

... sent some shockwaves through the industry. Do you, can you clarify exactly what the government's trying to do here? [inaudible]...

**PREMIER:**

Well, government will be making our decisions shortly. But of course, we've got the roundtable coming up where we will be talking with all of the stakeholders there. But what we are not talking about is a rent freeze. But what we do see in some other jurisdictions is that rents go up... not going to go up every year, they don't go up six monthly. So look, there's a lot of rental stress out there. And don't think for one moment that 700,000 people in the rental market are not feeling where sometimes you've got people putting up rents \$200 or \$400 a week, which is having a massive impact on people's ability to spend and pay for essential items. And also too, we've heard recent reports of some companies sending out to people saying now is your time to dramatically raise rents.

**REPORTER:**

So are you talking about more control or more safeguards for renters and trying to ensure that the small amount of rogue actors aren't rogue acting?

**PREMIER:**

Well, I think there is an issue with some people out there. There's been some reports recently about a company, a company particularly telling landlords to increase rents dramatically to take advantage of this particular crisis that we're in at the moment so look, we'll be having that roundtable next Tuesday and looking forward to hearing what people have to say.

Thanks, Asaesja



Queensland  
Government

**Asaesja Young**

Deputy Director – Government Media Unit  
**Office of the Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP**  
Premier of Queensland  
Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

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1 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002

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Great lifestyle*

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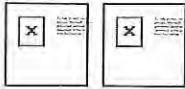
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Journalist

The Daily Aus

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