

Minister for Housing and Public Works Minister for Youth

Our Ref: MN03307-2025 Your reference: Petition 4197-25 1 William Street Brisbane Queensland GPO Box 690 Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia T: +617 3035 2100 E: housing@ministerial.qld.gov.au

1 1 APR 2025

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Queensland Parliamentary Service clerksoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Clerk Nei

Thank you for your email of 17 March 2025 regarding a petition to the Queensland Legislative Assembly (4197-25): *Rental costs in Queensland.*

The Queensland Government acknowledges that rental markets are under pressure nationally, and that renting has become harder and more expensive in recent years. Very low vacancy rates have driven rapid rent increases and declining rental affordability.

The key to improving rental affordability and reducing rental stress is growing housing supply and home ownership rates in Queensland. A legislative and regulatory environment built on stability and certainty will deliver strong investor confidence in Queensland, and will help to grow housing supply, maintain affordability for homeowners and renters and ensure the private rental market is an attractive option for investors.

As part of our plan to increase housing supply, we're making it easier to build in Queensland. Already we've taken swift action through our Building Reg Reno and are restoring the Queensland Productivity Commission with its first review being into the building and construction sector.

While the regulation of rental prices is often called for as a means to help address rental affordability, studies show that such policies can have adverse impacts, including resulting in a decline in quantity and quality of rental homes.

Queensland's rental laws have been progressively updated since 2021 and make the rights and obligations of renters and rental property owners clear to support a fair rental market. The Queensland Government will monitor these changes to ensure they do not have adverse impacts on rental supply and affordability.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sam O'Connor MP Minister for Housing and Public Works Minister for Youth