



Cameron Dick

Doing What Matters for Queensland



Ms Penny Carr
Chief Executive Officer
Tenants Queensland Limited and Make Renting Fair in Queensland Alliance

Email: ceo@tenantsqld.org.au

Dear Ms Carr

Thank you for your letter providing the Miles Labor Government with the Make Renting Fair Queensland Alliance election platform.

Our Labor Government led by new Premier Steven Miles has delivered historic cost of living relief for all Queenslanders. By making multinational mining companies pay their fair share we have delivered \$1,300 off every Queenslanders' power bill, 50 cent public transport fares, cutting rego by 20%, free Kindy, free TAFE, we banned rent bidding, cut stamp duty for first home buyers and delivered \$200 FairPlay vouchers for all Queensland families to help with the cost of kids' sport.

We also have an ambitious plan for Queensland's future – more health workers and more hospitals, more schools, roads, public transport, projects to keep Queenslanders in jobs and a universal free school lunch program at State primary schools. We're building more homes for Queenslanders, delivering our nation-leading Energy and Jobs Plan to power our homes and economy with cheap firm renewable energy and we're acting on community safety with more police and crime prevention.

The Miles Labor Government is committed to making renting fairer and protecting the rights of Queensland renters.

Through our Homes for Queenslanders plan we are delivering a \$160 million Renters Relief Package. This is helping Queenslanders find, get and keep a rental by:

- providing extra funding and expanding eligibility for our private market products and services such as bond loans and rental grants;
- establishing a Bridging Bond Loan while we develop a portable bond scheme to assist Queensland renters with the upfront costs of moving house; and
- Hiring 42 additional Rent Connect officers in our 21 Housing Service Centres to help renters find and secure a suitable private rental.

We are proud that under a Labor Government, renters' rights have been strengthened with several important changes to Queensland's rental laws making it fairer, safer and easier for Queenslanders to find, get and keep a rental.

While the LNP tore up the code of conduct and axed tenancy support, our Labor Government will never turn our back on renters.

We banned all types of rent bidding, and penalties will be enforced against real estate agents who engage or encourage these practices. We have ensured annual rent increases are now tied to the property, not the tenancy, to help renters keep their tenancies and assist in stabilising rents in the private rental market. Also, a Code of conduct is being developed to stamp down on unfair practises in the sector.

A re-elected Miles Labor Government will continue to work with the Alliance to address the ongoing challenges facing Queensland renters identified in your election platform including annual rental increases and a lack of certainty for renters under fixed term agreements.

In addition, we know the best way to improve rental affordability is to encourage more supply. That is why we have committed to building one million homes by 2046 and are working to get shovels in the ground sooner.

Since the release of our *Homes for Queenslanders Plan* and the passing of our significant rental reforms; residential construction is up in Queensland, and there are signs of stabilisation in the rental market.

The Miles Labor Government recognises that all Queenslanders deserve a comfortable home and affordable electricity. That is why we are implementing the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022 in Queensland and delivering \$1,000 electricity rebates to households.

To help more Queenslanders own their own home and ease the pressure currently on our rental market, the Miles Government has doubled the first homeowner grant to \$30,000 and scrapped stamp duty for more first home buyers.

The Miles Labor Government is appreciative of the valuable support that the Queensland Statewide Tenant Advice and Referral Service (QSTARS) provides to Queensland renters.

As outlined by the Premier in August 2024, the current contract with Tenants Queensland to deliver QSTARS runs from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2028. If re-elected, we are committed to maintaining QSTARS for the duration of the contract.

Unlike the LNP's vague housing "policy", the Miles Labor Government has released our detailed \$3.1 billion *Homes for Queenslanders Plan* to deliver one million more homes, and we are busy implementing it.

In contrast, David Crisafulli and the LNP have outlined no vision other than to cut – projects, jobs and essential services. Mr Crisafulli is a risk to Queensland and he will cut what matters to Queenslanders, just like the LNP did last time when they tore up the code of conduct and axed funding for the Tenants Advisory Service.

I would appreciate it if you could communicate our response with your Alliance members. Should the Miles Labor Government be re-elected, we look forward to continuing to work with you to continue to do what matters for Queensland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cameron Dick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

CAMERON DICK MP
Deputy Premier
Treasurer
Minister for Trade and Investment
18 / 10 / 2024