

Queensland Housing Summit

– yourtown's advocacy submission



What is it about?

The Queensland Housing Summit was held on 20 October 2022 to explore ways that governments, businesses, and communities can work together to address the critical housing crisis in Queensland. **yourtown** provided suggestions as to what the Summit should consider when seeking to address the housing crisis.

Why is it important?

Australia is a highly developed country with significant vacant land mass, yet we are ranked by the OECD as being in the top four countries in the world on price to income rental affordability and where prices appear to be overvalued but continue to rise. It is imperative that all Australian Governments review the policy settings that have led to this situation.

Some of **yourtown's** key messages:

1. Develop a cohesive, measurable action plan for collaborative investment in social housing by government, industry, and community.

An outcome of the Housing Summit must be the development of a clear plan of action, with measurable outcomes to invest in, build and deliver housing; including commitments as to who will be responsible for delivery of each item, and when it will be delivered. This plan should involve commitments from the Queensland and local governments, and articulate the contributions from the Federal Government, and how the governments, community and industry will support, invest in, and facilitate delivery of the plan.

2. Invest in more purpose-built accommodation and services for women and children escaping domestic and family violence and young people experiencing housing instability and/or homelessness.

Housing security facilitates not only continuous schooling for children, but also ensures vulnerable women and children can remain close to their support networks and have continuity with after crisis support care such as access to therapeutic, rehabilitation and re-integration support services that can lessen or reduce the long-term impacts and consequences of the experience of violence

3. Work with National Cabinet to increase and regularly review the rate of income support and supplementary allowances and consider other measures that address cost of living pressures for young people.

Building more social housing is only one piece of the puzzle in addressing housing instability and homelessness among children and young people. Of the 450 young Queenslanders who were surveyed in **yourtown's** 2021 Your Voice Project, 68% identified cost of living as an issue, 45% identified income support as an issue, and 44% identified housing as an issue.

4. Procure Social Enterprises to deliver social housing to provide jobs and apprenticeships for young people experiencing unemployment.

Procuring Social Enterprises to support the construction of social housing will deliver a wide range of social and economic benefits for young people, communities, and the Queensland Government.



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