

**Submission
No 90**

OPTIONS FOR ESSENTIAL WORKER HOUSING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Organisation: Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

Date Received: 24 September 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the NSW Legislative Assembly Select Committee's inquiry into essential worker housing.

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) supports clear definitions for essential workers and essential worker housing, noting that essential worker housing needs to be balanced with and delineated between affordable and social housing. To ensure regional and remote areas are treated commensurate with metropolitan areas, criteria for prioritising geographical areas should focus on regional and remote areas in the first instance, particularly for those experiencing high housing stress.

QPRC's Affordable Housing strategy recognises opportunities for NSW local governments to support the creation and maintenance of affordable housing through core planning legislation and policies. Incentives provided in the recent changes to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 are supported by QPRC and their impact are working their way through the LGA's housing pipeline.

Kind regards