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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prime Minister can't Close the Gap by Closing the Door on remote housing

Queensland's peak body for the housing and homelessness sector, Q Shelter, said the PM's statement on Closing the Gap couldn't be taken seriously while the Commonwealth continued to pull funding away from remote housing.

Q Shelter's Executive Director, Leone Crayden, said that the Commonwealth was abrogating its responsibilities to Indigenous Australians by walking away from the National Partnership on Remote Housing.

"How can the PM stand there with hand on heart about his efforts to close the gap when he's pulling funding from remote housing?" Ms Crayden said.

"Worse still, the PM just reneged on a dollar-for-dollar remote housing funding arrangement with the NT Government, despite his Indigenous Affairs Minister announcing the deal last month."

Ms Crayden said the PM couldn't walk away from Indigenous housing without threatening the nation's ability to meet Closing the Gap targets.

"If people don't have access to housing, then how can we expect to be able to close the gap in health, education, and employment across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?" Ms Crayden added.

Leone is available for interviews from Brisbane all week.

ENDS

Queensland Shelter Media Contact: Leone Crayden 0437 519 717

Queensland Shelter

Queensland Shelter is the state's peak body for the housing and homelessness sector. Founded over thirty years ago, Queensland Shelter is a member-based organisation funded by the Queensland Government.

They work with both the state government and housing and homelessness sector to reform, grow, engage, and build the capacity of the housing and homelessness sector.

www.qshelter.asn.au

ABN 214 955 03 790

PO Box 214, Spring Hill, Qld 4004

Telephone: 07 3831 5900 || Fax: 07 3236 1396 || www.qshelter.asn.au





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