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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Government's response to Residential Transition for Ageing Queenslanders welcomed**

Seniors' peak organisation Council on the Ageing (COTA) Queensland has welcomed the Palaszczuk Government's long-awaited response to the Advisory Taskforce on Residential Transition for Ageing Queenslanders.

The Taskforce, which included COTA, made recommendations to address housing and related needs of older Queenslanders.

COTA Queensland Chief Executive Mark Tucker-Evans said that the report recognised that older Queenslanders had to survive in an increasingly complex and competitive housing market. The largest investment that many seniors have made during their working lives is the family home. Seniors cannot afford to jeopardise that investment through a bad housing decision.

"Planning ahead is critical. Housing decisions are complex, often have emotional implications and for some older people decisions may be made under stress. Many older people are overwhelmed by the challenge of finding and processing the information they need." Said Mr Tucker-Evans

COTA Queensland looks forward to working with the Queensland Government in implementing the recommendations of the Taskforce report.

COTA has called on the State Government to assist build the capacity of older Queenslanders to make informed decisions about their housing through funding face-to-face interactive education sessions. These sessions would be provided by other older people who would be trained in the topic to facilitate open and honest discussion about housing needs in a safe and supportive format and environment.

COTA Queensland has advocated for age friendly cities and communities for over a decade. Age-friendly cities and communities promote health, wellbeing, and community participation. Facilitating informed decisions about housing is crucial to ensuring these outcomes and avoiding the negative outcomes associated with poor or delayed choices.

**END**

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