

KINGS HOTEL

**1119. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer to the Kings Hotel at 537 Hay Street Perth.

- (1) Is the minister aware that the Kings Hotel is currently abandoned?
- (2) Has the minister made a request to the state government to buy or lease this site for use as homelessness accommodation or to refurbish and rent as social housing?
- (3) If no to (2), will the minister consider purchasing or leasing this site in order to help ease the cost-of-living rental crisis currently occurring across the state?
- (4) How many other hotels are currently empty across the City of Perth and could be refurbished or used to help ease the rental crisis and the cost-of-living crisis across the state?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(4) The Department of Communities and the not-for-profit sector regularly review accommodation options across the state. Accommodation options are assessed on a range of factors including on their ability to sustain the tenancies of people experiencing homelessness with highly complex needs, whether they meet due diligence and value for money requirements and their alignment to a Housing First approach. It is crucial that accommodation is appropriately located and designed, and includes the necessary facilities and support services to meet individual needs. Not all accommodation options are suitable for people with complex needs. The McGowan government has provided additional capacity to accommodate up to 102 individuals, including the addition of new low-barrier homelessness services, offering culturally supportive accommodation.