

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND WORKS - HOUSING AND LAND, BROOME

935. Hon KEN BASTON to the minister representing the Minister for Housing and Works:

I refer to housing and land held by the Department of Housing and Works in Broome.

- (1) How many vacant blocks does the department hold?
- (2) How many vacant houses and units does the department hold?
- (3) What is the date for processing applications for two and three-bedroom accommodation?
- (4) How many people are on the waiting list for two and three-bedroom accommodation?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The Department of Housing and Works has advised that as at 30 September 2007 -

- (1) The department has 10 vacant blocks in Broome, and plans are well advanced to construct rental accommodation on eight of those blocks.
- (2) There are seven vacant public housing properties. Three vacant properties were being returned to the department to be relet plus a further two properties were in the process of reallocation. Two other properties were also undergoing standard vacated maintenance for prompt allocation.
- (3) The last applicant housed in a two-bedroom family property applied on 21 March 2003. The last applicant housed in a three-bedroom family property applied on 6 November 2002. The last applicant housed in a two-bedroom seniors' property applied on 7 February 2003.
- (4) Two hundred and forty-three applicants. It is worthy of note that in the 2007-08 state budget, the government announced it would invest \$417 million over four years in social housing and deliver at least 1 000 extra social housing dwellings over the next four years. This investment was built on last month when the government committed a further \$238 million dollars to affordable housing and land initiatives, including the delivery of an extra 124 social rental housing properties. Twenty-one additional social housing properties are planned to commence in Broome in 2007-08.