

PUBLIC HOUSING — INCOME ELIGIBILITY THRESHOLD

668. Hon SAMANTHA ROWE to the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the income threshold for public housing eligibility, which has remained stagnant since 2006.

- (1) In light of the significant increases to cost of living that formed part of the recent state budget, including increases to power of 4.5 per cent, increases to water of 4.5 per cent and a 2.4 per cent increase in public transport, does the minister recognise that the income eligibility threshold needs to be increased?
- (2) Does the minister intend to increase the income eligibility threshold in the next 12 months?
- (3) Is the minister currently considering indexation options for some eligibility thresholds to ensure that it reflects increasing costs of living?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

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

- (1) The eligibility income limits aim to ensure that public housing is targeted at those most in need of housing assistance. The department will continue to monitor the income eligibility limits in line with this objective.
- (2)–(3) No.
- (4) Indexation may be considered in future reviews of the eligibility limits.