

HOUSING — AVAILABILITY

**1126. Hon SAMANTHA ROWE to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer to a significant increase in the number of constituents presenting to my electorate office in Belmont to report homelessness and housing issues. Does the government believe that the existing public housing stock supplemented by community housing adequately meets the needs of the approximately 20 000 people on the waiting list for public housing?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Department of Housing advises that since 2010, the state affordable housing strategy has achieved over 16 800 additional affordable housing opportunities for people on low to moderate incomes against the target of 20 000 additional affordable homes by 2020. The overall waiting list for social housing has been falling. In the department's south east metropolitan region, it has fallen from 4 722 in 2009–10 to 3 195 in 2013–14. During the same period, the priority waiting list has also fallen in the south east metropolitan region from 533 to 387. The department regularly monitors public housing eligibility limits to ensure that public housing is targeted to those most in need.