

PUBLIC HOUSING — WAITING LISTS

141. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Housing:

My question without notice, of which some notice has been given —

Hon Jim Chown interjected.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Yes, I know. Calm down!

I will start again, Mr President, because of the interruptions and unruly interjections. My question without notice to the Minister for Housing, of which some notice has been given, is as follows.

I refer to the changes made last year by the Department of Housing for applicants on the waiting list that required applicants to notify department offices in writing annually that they were still an applicant and required accommodation.

- (1) For each year since the introduction of this policy, how many Homeswest applicants have been taken off the waiting list for failing to notify the department in writing that they still required accommodation?
- (2) From what regions or suburbs are those applicants detailed in (1)?
- (3) How many of those in (1) are —
 - (a) of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent;
 - (b) women; and
 - (c) applicants with children and dependents?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

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

- (1)–(2) The Department of Housing has a longstanding policy that applicants must advise the department whether they still require accommodation. Since 16 January 2012, applicants, partners and/or co-applicants must demonstrate that they are eligible at the time of application while on the waiting list and before an offer of housing is made. From 16 January 2012 to 24 October 2014, 444 applications were withdrawn due to the applicant failing to respond to the annual survey. This is broken down into regions: metro north, 135; metro south, 62; metro south east, 180; great southern, 15; south west, 20; goldfields, 8; midwest–Gascoyne, 12; Pilbara, 4; West Kimberley, 6; wheatbelt, 2; East Kimberley, nil.
- (3) Due to the level of detailed information required, the department is unable to provide the information in the time available, and I would ask the member to please place the question on notice.

The PRESIDENT: As this looks like being the last chance, does Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich have any other questions?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Certainly, Mr President, I do not.

Hon Ken Travers: Don't you want to do one for Stephen Dawson?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Can I do one for Hon Stephen Dawson?

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Hon Adele Farina.