

PUBLIC HOUSING — RENT CALCULATION

19. Hon STEPHEN DAWSON to the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the public housing rent calculation changes in 2016.

- (1) What is the total number of public housing tenants and what is the estimated number of tenants that the calculation changes are expected to affect?
- (2) What is the estimated revenue expected to be derived from the calculation changes?
- (3) What modelling and investigation was undertaken, and by whom, to develop the calculation changes?
- (4) Based on current calculations, how many tenants will have their rent increased by 25 per cent, 50 per cent, 75 per cent, and 100 per cent?
- (5) Which specific Australian states treat the same list of allowances to be assessed by the state Housing Authority as assessable income?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Of the current 36 470 public housing tenancies, the rent calculation changes will affect approximately 28 000 tenancies currently receiving government-subsidised rental housing.
- (2) Expected additional revenue is \$58.8 million to 2018–19.
- (3) The Housing Authority conducted internal modelling on the impact of the change on households and additional revenue expected to be received.
- (4) Nil. Due to the public housing rent calculation change, the maximum increase in rent is \$12 per week per household.
- (5) It is widely accepted that 25 per cent of income is a fair and affordable threshold for public housing tenants' rent across Australia. Each state and territory adopts an independent approach to determining assessable income.