

PUBLIC HOUSING — FIXED-TERM LEASE TERMINATIONS

67. Hon WILSON TUCKER to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the Department of Communities practice of utilising “without grounds” terminations at the end of a fixed-term lease to evict public housing tenants. In the last 24 months, how many public housing tenants have been subject to a without grounds termination?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Housing.

“Without grounds” is a limited legal term and does not mean that there are not substantiated reasons for a fixed-term tenancy not being renewed. A fixed-term tenancy may end for a range of reasons, including when a fixed-term tenancy is renewed, a tenant moves on to a periodic tenancy, a transfer is requested by the tenant or when a tenancy has not been renewed for reasons including significant community safety concerns, illegal use of premises or prolonged non-occupation of the property. The Department of Communities data reporting does not capture individual reasons for which a fixed-term tenancy may end. As such, providing this data would require a manual review of individual case files and is not considered a reasonable use of government resources.