

PUBLIC HOUSING — WAITLIST

1037. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the wait-turn and priority public housing waitlists.

- (1) How many applicants and individuals were on each list at the end of August 2023?
- (2) How many of those applicants and individuals receive a disability support payment?
- (3) On what date did the applicant who has been waiting the longest on each waitlist initially join the waitlist?
- (4) As the inquiry into the financial administration of homelessness services in Western Australia recommended, will the minister commit to recommencing the publication of a housing dashboard of key public housing statistics like these monthly, without the need for non-government members of Parliament to use up questions during question time, as is done in other Australian jurisdictions?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

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

- (1) As at 31 July 2023, the public waitlist fell to 18 984 applications statewide, representing 33 943 people. This included 4 768 priority applications, representing 9 447 people.
- (2) As advised in the response to Legislative Council questions without notice 632 and 864, data recorded on applications containing a disability support payment is unable to be provided to this level of specificity as not all people on an application may be in receipt of a disability support payment and data is recorded on a tenancy level.
- (3) This data is unavailable to be provided within the time period specified. Should the member place this question on notice, the minister will endeavour to provide a response.
- (4) As the honourable member has previously been advised, waitlist data is regularly made publicly available. As was noted in the response to the inquiry into the financial administration of homelessness services in Western Australia, no other jurisdiction routinely makes data available to the level recommended by the committee and it would require a significant diversion of resources from core functions.