

PUBLIC HOUSING — WAITLIST

264. Hon STEVE MARTIN to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the public housing waitlist.

- (1) How many applications are on the public housing waitlist, representing how many individuals?
- (2) How many applications are on the priority public housing waitlist, representing how many individuals?
- (3) How many houses were added to the public housing stock last month?
- (4) How many houses were removed from the public housing stock last month?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture and Food. The following answer is provided by the Minister for Housing.

- (1)–(2) As at 29 February 2024, there were 19 976 applications on the public housing waitlist statewide, representing 35 660 people. This includes 5 216 priority applications, representing 10 189 people. The number of individuals represented on public housing applications should be read with caution given that individuals are often counted on multiple applications. The Department of Communities advises that there is double counting in this figure.
- (3)–(4) On average, around 125 social homes are being added or returning to the system through refurbishments every month in Western Australia. During the month of February, 101 properties were removed from stock, 93 of which were from the North Beach and Subiaco East projects, which are large-scale renewal projects that have been progressed by the Cook Labor government after being neglected for years under the former Liberal–National government. This government is also undertaking a significant refurbishments program, having delivered 1 589 refurbishments between 2020 and January 2024.