

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS — DATA

335. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to recently released Australian Bureau of Statistics data that shows that more than 100 000 people are migrating to Australia each month and to the housing crisis that we face in Western Australia.

- (1) Can the minister advise how many families are currently couch surfing or living in cars?
- (2) If no to (1), why does the Minister for Housing not know how many Western Australian families are unable to provide appropriate, stable accommodation for their children?
- (3) What immediate options is the minister able to provide for families with children who are living in tents or other inappropriate accommodation?
- (4) Can the minister confirm that there have been reports of families living in cars for the past three years?

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.

- (1)–(2) Data on homelessness is collected via census data from the census of population and housing, gathered by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- (3)–(4) The state government funds 130 homelessness services statewide. People who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness should contact their local Department of Communities office or Entrypoint Perth to be referred to local support services.