



The Hon Peter Collier MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations  
Parliament House  
4 Harvest Terrace  
West Perth WA 6005

Dear Mr Collier

### **2021-22 Budget Estimates - Correction**

I write regarding a response provided to the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations on 17 November 2021 in relation to an 'Additional Question' asked by the Hon. Steve Martin MLC on public housing waitlist figures.

It has been identified that an administrative error occurred when preparing the data to respond to that question, and the people on the priority housing waitlist were counted separately and then added to the general waitlist figures. This resulted in the people on the priority waitlist being counted twice as those people are a subset of the general waitlist.

I apologise for the error in responding to this question. It should be noted that even with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of people on the general and priority waitlist remains significantly below the previous high level recorded in as at 30 June 2010 with 24,137 applications on the public housing waitlist.

The full corrected answer is provided in Attachment 1.

If you have any further queries, please contact the Department of Communities' Parliamentary Services team at [parliamentaryservices@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:parliamentaryservices@communities.wa.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

Mike Rowe  
**Director General**  
4 March 2022

**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
2021-22 BUDGET ESTIMATES - ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

**Department of Communities**

**Hon Steve Martin MLC asked:**

3. I refer to Budget Paper No. 2, Vol. 2, page 515, paragraph 3.

- (a) How many applications were on the public housing waitlist as of the following months:
- (i) July 2021;
  - (ii) August 2021;
  - (iii) September 2021; and
  - (iv) October 2021?
- (b) Of those in (a), how many people does this represent; and
- (c) Of those in (b), how many of these people are under 18?

**Answer**

3 a) to c)

<b>Public Housing State-wide Wait List &amp; Householder Information</b>			
<b>Data as at date</b>	<b>Number of Applications (wait turn and priority)</b>	<b>No. to be Housed (Householders)</b>	<b>No. of Householders under 18</b>
31 July 2021	17,320	30,024	10,001
31 August 2021	17,480	30,394	10,204
30 September 2021	17,689	30,774	10,443
31 October 2021	17,824	31,114	10,588

**Notes:**

- **\*\* NB:** The number of Wait Turn Applications includes Priority Applications.
- **\*\*\*\*\* NB:** Data sourced from Habitat (Tenancy Management System).