

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

### ANSWERS TO 2022-23 BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTION PRIOR TO HEARINGS

#### Synergy

Hon Dr Brad Pettitt asked:

1. I refer to Budget Paper No. 2 Vol. 2, Asset Investment Program, COVID-19 Response point 6, specifically the Smart Energy for Social Housing project on page 794 and I ask:

- a) How is your Department working with Department of Communities on this program;

Answer:

Synergy works collaboratively with the Department of Communities to deliver the Smart Energy for Social Housing pilot.

- b) How were the 500 tenants chosen;

Answer:

Synergy and the Department of Communities have been working collaboratively to identify tenants for this program.

As the primary purpose of the trial is to test potential bill savings for different households through new tariffs, the key focus has been on identifying tenants that may benefit and whose consumption data may offer meaningful insights.

Once a suitable tenant is identified, Synergy will contact the tenant and offer to recruit them to the program.

- c) Given the pilot's success does the government intend to roll the program out more broadly:

- I. If yes to (c), when and where; and

- II. If no to (c), why not;

Answer:

- I. No decision has been made to extend the program beyond 2024.

- II. Results from the pilot program will continue to be reviewed to determine the costs and benefits of the program.

- d) Has Synergy collaborated with the Department of Communities to model the costs and benefits to roll this out to all of WA's social housing;

Answer:

No.

- e) Has the Department calculated the emissions savings from this program?

Answer:

No; as the primary purpose of the trial is to reduce energy bills for Department of Communities tenants, emission reductions have not been calculated.

Minister's Initials

