QTON No. SP-079

Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
Standing Committee on Social Policy

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

Addressed to: Catherine Rule, Director-General, Community Services Directorate

In relation to: Housing assistance fraud allegations

Hearing: 21 February 2025
Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 27
Transcript provided: 27 February 2025
Answer Due: 6 March 2025 5:00PM

Catherine Rule took on notice the following question(s):

MISS NUTTALL: Yes, just a quick supplementary, if that is okay?

Is there any sort of work that you have done to understand whether this might be related to us being in a housing crisis, that it might be, for example, friends and family who have not managed to get secure housing, who might be staying either short term or medium term as they look for houses.? Do you sort of go to that level of detail when you do talk to people?

Ms Rule: Well we would in individual circumstances. But I do not think we have got the aggregate kind of results of that – I do not think I have got enough information to be able to identify an overall trend. I am sure that is reasonable in some cases, that that is what tenants are telling us. But I cannot speculate whether that is a broad trend or not.

MISS NUTTALL: Got you. And do you mind me asking then, how many of the allegations of fraud were substantiated and how many were sort of cleared up with a conversation?

Ms Rule: Yes, sure. We will have to take that on notice, I think.

MISS NUTTALL: Yes.

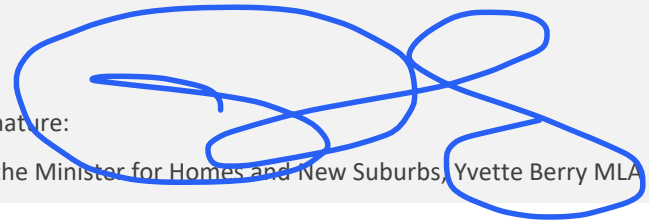
Ms Borwick: Yes, absolutely.

Ms Rule: We will have to take that on notice, Miss Nuttall.

Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Out of the 101 complaints received alleging fraud during the 23-24 reporting period, 8 fraud complaints were upheld and the rest were either withdrawn, not upheld or inconclusive due to insufficient evidence.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: 

Date: 12/05/25

By the Minister for Homes and New Suburbs, Yvette Berry MLA