



## Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

### **Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023**

#### **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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Asked by Mr Mark Parton MLA:

Reference: Hearing on 15 November 2023, Annual Report of Community Services Directorate

In relation to: Housing ACT and Sale to tenant scheme

- (1) How many applied for the sale to tenant scheme?
- (2) What are the main reasons these applications are not approved?
  - (a) Were they not approved as this would be detrimental to your Growth and Renewal program?
  - (b) How does not approving applications help tenants own their own home when you deny the sales of their property to benefit the department?

Minister Berry: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

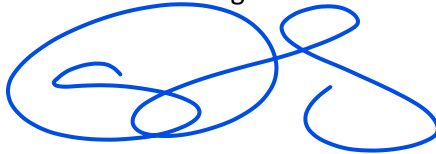
- (1) In 2022-23, Housing ACT received 24 applications to participate in the Sale to Tenant Scheme.
- (2) The primary reasons for an application being rejected related to: the age of the property, being too young for disposal; and, the impact to the portfolio of the proposed sale and Housing ACT's ability to efficiently replace the property.
  - (a) Housing ACT is charged with stewardship and strategic management of the Territory's public housing portfolio, being a significant asset base and primary enabler to the provision of housing assistance programs within the ACT.  
  
As a result, in some instances Housing ACT is required to deny Sale to Tenant applications, where the proposed action represents an undesirable asset management outcome and does not align with broader objectives.
  - (b) Housing ACT supports actions to provide home ownership opportunities to public housing tenants.

However, in some instances Housing ACT is faced with a scenario where the cost of replacing a property notably exceeds the value of the proposed sale, and the action would result in a net negative impact on the portfolio and its service provision capacity (i.e., net loss in stock count).

In these circumstances, Housing ACT must act in the interest of the broader portfolio and tenant cohort.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and curves, positioned to the right of the 'Signature:' label.

Date: 28/11/23

By the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Yvette Berry MLA