



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

**ANSWER TO
QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Mark Parton MLA to ask the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development

Ref: Budget Statement G – Housing ACT – Secure Local Jobs code

Date (Question Lodged by Member): 07/09/2022

Date (Question Sent to DLO): 08/09/2022

In relation to the Secure Local Jobs Code:

1. Does Housing ACT contract builders to construct dwellings on its behalf?

- a. **With the residential constructor sector booming, has it been challenging attracting builders to construct dwellings for Housing ACT?**
- a. **If Yes it has been challenging – What are the main reasons for this challenge? Have you received any feedback from industry that with no shortage of work around, the additional administration associated with the Secure Local Jobs code is a major deterrent to tendering to construct for Housing ACT?**
- b. **If Yes the Secure Local Jobs code is an issue - Does Housing ACT benchmark how much more they are paying per sqm due to the Secure Local Jobs code? And if not, why not?**

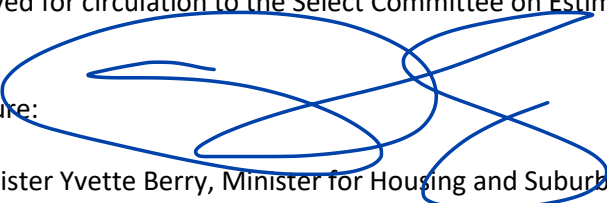
MARK PARTON
Shadow Minister for Transport

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

Answer 1: Yes, Housing ACT, Community Services Directorate (Housing ACT) has established a Residential Construction Building Contractors Panel (Panel) to assist in delivering the Growing and Renewing Public Housing Program 2019-2024. To date the builders delivering the program have been engaged from the Panel.

Answer 1a: It has not been challenging to attract builders to deliver the Growing and Renewing Public Housing Program. However, there are several events have occurred that have impacted the construction industry including the COVID-19 pandemic, war in Ukraine, significant wet weather, and an influx of private and Government funding into the construction (residential and commercial) sector which has resulted in material shortage, labour and trade shortages. These are industry wide challenges and not isolated to Housing ACT work.

Answer 1b: No. Qualified Quantity Surveyors undertake benchmarking of anticipated construction costs of varying products for the forward program-based Housing ACT tender documentation which includes the requirement for all contractors to have SLJC certificates as is the legislated requirement for government construction works.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023	
Signature: 	Date: 13/09/22
By Minister Yvette Berry, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LODGING QUESTIONS ON NOTICES (QON):

1. Each QON should be emailed to the Committee Support office in **Word format** and **signed PDF (scanned)** to LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au
2. This should occur within **5 working days of the hearing**. Day 1 of the 5 working days is the next working day after the hearing day. **Example:** *If a hearing was held on Monday, the QON should be submitted by close of business on the following Monday.*
3. * Number assigned by Committee Support office

