



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

Addressed to: Megan Valler, Executive Branch Manager, Infrastructure and Contracts Branch

In relation to: Housing modifications

Hearing: 21 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 35-36

Transcript provided: 27 February 2025

Answer Due: 6 March 2025 5:00PM

Megan Valler took on notice the following question(s):

Ms Valler: Because there may be situations where the person is after a disability modification but it might not necessarily fall into the thresholds of disability medication. It might fall into a tenant modification.

Ms Borwick: And I think, just adding to that, depending on what the modifications are and the request, it is also dependent on the infrastructure. So if you are in a house, for instance, of a particular age, it might be that widening the doorways, for instance, to meet that requirement, actually cannot be done within that infrastructure footprint. In those cases we may look or seek to transfer an individual to a more suitable property.

So I think in talking in absolute terms of having met all of them, I am not sure that we would be able to give a black and white answer, because it will depend on a couple of different circumstances.

Ms Rule: I do not think there is a circumstance though, Miss Nuttall, where an application – where those modifications have been denied on the basis that there is no funding available. It has been a circumstance where it is not possible and there are different solutions that we have to work through with individual tenants.

MISS NUTTALL: Yes, that is good to hear. Thank you. Sorry, there is a couple of things there. Are there cases in which you have had to relocate someone rather than undergoing the modification? I think you mentioned before things like widening doorways where it becomes clear the property does not fit need.

Ms Rule: Yes. Yes.

MISS NUTTALL: How many cases is that? Is that something you are able to go to the detail of?

Ms Valler: Are you just asking how many relocations have occurred because disability modifications were unable to be undertaken?

MISS NUTTALL: Yes.

Ms Valler: Yes, I will take that on notice.

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

The non-standard data required to fully respond to the question of how many relocations have occurred because disability modifications could not be provided in time cannot be provided within the given timeframe. Longer timeframes are required for reporting data not already contained in an established report as this requires additional methodology design, quality assurance and appropriate clearance for use by the Data Custodian, particularly when unpublished operational data is the underlying data source.

Where disability modifications are unable to be completed due to structural barriers or asset life, Housing ACT works with the tenant to facilitate relocation to a property that meets their specific needs.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

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

Date:

19/03/25