



Inquiry into DPA-04: Missing Middle Housing reform

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: JO CLAY

Addressed to: Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Reference: CED - Planning

Hearing: 12 February 2026

In relation to: ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Question received: 18 February 2026

Answer Due: 25 February 2026

Jo Clay MLA: to the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development -

- (1) How many assessment officers are there in the Statutory Planning area of City and Environment Directorate that are involved in assessing Development Applications for building developments?
- (2) How many of these assessing officers have (a) the delegation to make decisions on Development Applications; and (b) have planning, architecture or landscape qualifications?
- (3) If there is a separate area responsible for assessing lease variations how many officers are involved in assessing Development Applications for lease variations?

Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) Statutory Planning Division have the 24 officers involved in assessing development applications (DAs) and a further 9 officers involved in assessing lease variation DAs; a total of 33 officers for assessing all DAs.
- 2)
 - a) All DA officers within the Territory Planning Authority have delegations to make a decision under the Planning (Territory Planning Authority) Delegation 2025 (No1). However, of the 33 officers, there are 9 who utilise these delegations to make the decisions. This is due to the internal procedures for escalation and the staged assessment process, that has been established under the integrity framework, which is managed by senior assessment officers and outlined further in the response to QTON 09 of this Inquiry.

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- b) As part of the standard selection criteria in recruitment, all assessment officers have qualifications and/or significant experience in architecture, urban design, town planning, environmental planning or similar fields.
- 3) Please see the response to part (1).

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

Signature:



Date:

25 / 2 / 26

By the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development, Mr Chris Steel MLA