



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–24

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Ms Yvette Berry MLA, Minister for Homes and New Suburbs

In relation to: Proportion of community housing

Hearing: 10 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript: 10 February 2025, p 12

Transcript provided: 12 February 2025

Answer Due: 19 February 2025

Ms Yvette Berry MLA took on notice the following question(s):

MR EMERSON: On housing strategy and policy, my understanding is the ACT has the lowest proportion of community housing within our social housing mix in Australia. First of all, is that accurate? Is that the government's understanding as well?

Ms Berry: I cannot confirm that. I would have to take that on notice just to confirm whether that is the case or not. We will get what we can, because we do not know everything about community housing providers. We do not collect their data, or a lot of their data, but we will do what we can. We will find out what we can for the committee.

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

1. In the ACT, social housing encompasses public housing and community housing. As at June 2023, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)* reported that the profile of social housing varied across states and territories.
 - a. Using the AIHW data* and ABS population data**, the ACT had the second highest rate of social housing per capita, behind only the Northern Territory.
 - a. For New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, and the Australian Capital Territory, most social housing dwellings were public housing (60 to 87 per cent), followed by community housing (14 to 34 per cent).
 - b. Although the ACT had the lowest proportion of social housing delivered as community housing, the ACT had more community housing per capita than Victoria and Queensland, and similar levels to Western Australia.
 - c. The ACT had 13.5 per cent of social housing as community housing (the lowest proportion in the country) and 86.5 per cent of social housing as public housing (the highest proportion in the country).

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- d. A lower rate of community housing as a proportion of social housing does not indicate the deficit of social housing in the ACT, as the ACT Government has several initiatives in place to boost the community housing sector to help increase growth in social housing.

*Source: [AHIW 'Housing assistance in Australia 2024'](#)

**Source: [ABS Population figures for June 2023.](#)

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:

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

Date:

21/02/25