



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 34-35

Transcript provided: 27 February 2025

Answer Due: 6 March 2025 5:00PM

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

MISS NUTTALL: Thank you. I am interested in access ability modifications. How much money is allocated for public housing modifications for residents with disabilities each year?

Ms Valler: Megan Valler, Infrastructure and Contract Branch, Executive Manager. I have read and agree with the privilege statement and understand the implications. So your question was around who much – may I ask you to ask the question again, sorry?

MISS NUTTALL: Yes, absolutely. So how much money is advocated for public housing modifications for residents with disabilities each year?

Ms Valler: Yes, so last year, \$1.9 million was spent on disability modifications and that was close to about 460 homes.

MISS NUTTALL: Yes, beautiful. So do you mind if I just confirm the number again, sorry?

Ms Valler: Yes, \$1.9 million.

MISS NUTTALL: \$1.9 million, beautiful. Thank you. And of that \$1.9 million, how much of this money remains for this financial year?

Ms Valler: So that was in 23-24 financial year.

MISS NUTTALL: Got you.

Ms Valler: And at the end of this financial year, 24-25, I will have an accurate number for you.

MISS NUTTALL: Got you.

Ms Rule: So that is actual spend. I think it comes out of our general maintenance budget, not our repairs and maintenance budget. And those are actual numbers that Ms Valler is referring to.

*Noting the Director General, Community Services Directorate, Ms Rule has written to the Chair of the Standing Committee to correct the evidence provided above to be corrected to “the repairs and maintenance budget and general maintenance budget are the same. Further, disability modifications is a budget line within the repairs and maintenance budget.

MISS NUTTALL: Got you, okay. Does that mean that everyone so far that has needed a modification has received a modification?

Ms Valler: I believe so. But I will come back to you. I will take that on notice.

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

All disability modification requests received by Housing ACT are assessed under the Total Facilities Management (TFM) Agreement.

In 2023/24 financial year, 458 homes received a disability modification.

Where disability modification works are unable to be completed (e.g. limitations due to structure/ layout of the property or longevity of the property remaining suitable for the tenant’s condition/requirements), minor modifications to manage short term requirements (where possible) are completed. In some cases, tenants may be referred to the tenant relocation team to assist in transferring to a more suitable property.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

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

Date:

06/05/25