



DPA-04 Missing Middle Housing Reform

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

In relation to: Reporting on development application timeframes

Hearing: 12 February 2026

Uncorrected: Proof Transcript pp 124-125

Transcript provided: 19 February 2026

Answer Due: 26 February 2026

THE CHAIR: Is there any reason that government cannot provide an accountability indicator about the day that somebody first lodged the DA for the full period of time to when they get their DA approved, not any clock stopping. But is it six months, is it a year, is it three years, is that—I mean, that would be an accountability indicator that government could come up with a series of those?

Ms Kaucz: So one of the things that we do provide details on is the average number of days for decisions, that is for the total and the meeting days to make decisions that is the—from lodgement to decision, not the statutory timeframe to make the decision. So that is something that we publish and we can send through the details to see who the guide—

THE CHAIR: Can you send through the details of that set of figures, and we might have a look at it and see if we have another set of figures to suggest or not, or is that cumbersome?

Ms Kaucz: Yes.

Mr Engele: The one thing just to—is that average day will not recognise the complexity of the—

THE CHAIR: No, the longer ones.

Mr Engele: —things coming through. So I guess if we have lots of simple DAs that will drag that number down and if we have more complex DAs which actually have longer statutory timeframes to make a decision that will come up. So I guess we will provide that and we will provide you the link and we can provide you with some explanation about some of the caveats around that data.

THE CHAIR: Great.

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

The Territory Planning Authority (the Authority) has the following performance indicators that were reported in the 2024-25 Annual report:

- Median processing times in working days for significant development applications (DAs) – 60 working days.
- Median processing times in working days for other (non-significant) development applications – 37 working days.
- Percentage of development application decisions made within statutory timeframes – 75%.
- Proportion of minor housing developments (exemption declaration applications) approved within statutory timeframe (10 days) – 80%.

Median processing times are calculated using the number of working days from the date of lodgement of a DA to the date of the decision. Decisions made within statutory timeframes however use the number of working days from the date of lodgement to the date of decision minus the number of working days the DA is waiting for further information/amended plans from the applicant ('stop the clock' clauses).

The reporting on the performance indicators for the previous years are outlined in Annual Reports which are available at <https://www.act.gov.au/open/environment-planning-and-sustainable-development-directorate-annual-reports>.

The Authority also provides monthly updates on their website which includes average days to make a decision (i.e. from day of lodgement to day of decision) along with other information. This is available at <https://www.planning.act.gov.au/applications-and-assessments/development-applications/development-statistics/development-applications-da-statistics-2025-26>.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

Signature:



Date:

26/2/26

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