QTON No. 1

Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
Standing Committee on Social Policy

Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

In relation to: Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs and Rates – percentage of funding

Hearing: 10 November 2025
Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 3-4 and pp 41-42
Transcript provided: 14 November 2025
Answer Due: 21 November 2025

Mr Balaretnaraja: Ash Balaretnaraja, Executive Branch Manager Housing and Homelessness Policy and Programs. The additional operating expenditure or rates in the 25-26 financial year is $958,000.

THE CHAIR: And what is that as a percentage of recurrent funding that you receive?

Mr Balaretnaraja: I do not have that figure.

MR EMERSON: Would any other officials have that figure recurrent funding for housing ACT?

Ms Berry: Can we take that on notice? We may be able to come back to you shortly during the course of this morning's session, would that be—

THE CHAIR: Yes, that sounds fine. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. I just wanted to quickly check, so we heard earlier that there was a $958,000 rates increase just related to this, taking this question on notice, in the coming financial year but how many public housing properties are there in the ACT?

Ms Shields: Right as at—

THE CHAIR: Now.

Ms Shields: I had that number just before.

Ms Berry: 11,800.

Ms Shields: Yes. 11,000.

THE CHAIR: 11,800 or thereabouts.

Ms Shields: I will just have to it re-find my number, sorry.

THE CHAIR: That is okay.

Ms Shields: 11,885 as at 30 September.

THE CHAIR: So how come—so there is a $100 levy for every property which is— that is over $1 million just there. So how can the number for rates increases be below?

Ms Shields: So we might be talking about two different points in time, I have just given you 30 September number. I think earlier that number would have been—

Ms Berry: For June.

Ms Shields: June. Is that correct?

Mr Balaretnaraja: Yes, and that rates number is not just for the health levy, there is also the fire and emergencies levy that is in there per property, the safer families levy that is in there as well, as well as the health levy.

THE CHAIR: And then also general rates increases.

Ms Shields: On top of that, yes, as well.

THE CHAIR: So should it not be, like, significantly more than a million, $1.185 million?

Ms Shields: Yes, I would like to take it on notice as we have said earlier so that we can make sure we get you the exact—

THE CHAIR: Yes, may be you just need to fact check that figure.

Ms Shields: And so that we are talking the same points in time as well, yes.

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

Impact of rates increases as a percentage of recurrent funding is a follows:

Item	Figures
General rates increase in 2025	$1,898,000
Recurrent appropriation	$61,652,000
Rates increase as % of recurrent appropriation	3.1%

The increase in rates outlined in the above table is $958,000 higher than originally forecast in the 2025-26 Budget Statements.

It should be noted that the recurrent appropriation only represents 33% of Housing ACT's Total Revenue for the 2025-26 financial year with the remainder being own source revenue.

Not all dwellings owned by Housing ACT attract levies. Housing ACT owns a number of multi-unit non-strata managed sites which only attract a single levy instead of a levy for each dwelling on a site. For example, a site with 6 dwellings would only attract a $100 charge, instead of $600.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: Date: 20/11/25

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