



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

Redirected to:

Reference: CMTEDD

Hearing: 10/11/2025

In relation to: Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers

Question received: 12/10/2025

Answer Due: 25/11/2025

1. Do you have any targets or have you been provided any directions on the percentage of Affordable Housing to be managed by Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers?
2. How would a proposal from an Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Provider be considered differently from the usual process of consideration?
3. I note that you are progressing a proposal from SEARMS Community Housing Aboriginal Corporation, can you give me an update of proposals from the other Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers
 - a. Yerrabi Yurwang Child and Family Aboriginal Corporation
 - b. Yeddung Murra (Good Pathways) Aboriginal Corporation,
 - c. EveryMob,
 - d. Sisters in Spirit

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

- 1. Do you have any targets or have you been provided any directions on the percentage of Affordable Housing to be managed by Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers?**

No targets have been set on the percentage of Affordable Housing to be managed by Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers.

The Government has committed to make 75 public housing properties available for specialist housing and homelessness services, including to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, adding to more than 700 already operated in partnership with community housing providers.

Building the Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing sector in the ACT is a key priority for the ACT Government, in accordance with Clause 55 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, to meet the needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community in the ACT across the housing continuum.

The ACT Government also works with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body to deliver on the Housing Focus Area of the *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028*.

2. How would a proposal from an Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Provider be considered differently from the usual process of consideration?

Integrated Request Process – Land Release and Affordable Housing Project Fund

The ACT Government, through the Suburban Land Agency (SLA) and Treasury, opened a process in November 2024, integrating Affordable Housing Project Fund support with the release of two community housing sites.

- *The Request for Expressions of Interest for Land for Community Housing and Proposals for Financial Assistance for Affordable Rental* (Request Process) was open from 7 November 2024 until 21 January 2025.

Responses from NRSCH registered Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers (ACCO CHPs) and/or ACCO-led consortia were prioritised and weighted favourably, including providing up to 100 per cent of the land purchase price. There was strong interest in this process.

In June 2025, the ACT Government announced that SEARMS was successful in receiving financial assistance from the Affordable Housing Project Fund for a site in Gungahlin for affordable housing. Details will be confirmed as contract negotiations progress.

Consultation with ACCOs was a key element of the Request Process to understand their plans and ambitions through surveys, meetings and support to navigate the process, including provision of a dedicated concierge service. The concierge service was established to support ACCOs participate in the Request Process by providing a key contact within Government to answer questions, facilitate information requests and encourage ACCOs to access business development services through the Badji program.

Future Affordable Housing Project Fund processes will also include reimbursement for ACCO proposal development costs up to \$25,000 per compliant unsuccessful proposal.

3. I note that you are progressing a proposal from SEARMS Community Housing Aboriginal Corporation, can you give me an update of proposals from the other Aboriginal Community Controlled Housing Providers
- a. Yerrabi Yurwang Child and Family Aboriginal Corporation
 - b. Yeddung Murra (Good Pathways) Aboriginal Corporation
 - c. EveryMob
 - d. Sisters in Spirit

In 2024, the ACT Government engaged with ACCOs to ascertain their growth aspirations, level of interest and capacity to develop housing in the ACT.

The consultation process involved surveying and/or meeting the following ACCOs to discuss opportunities, including, but not limited to the Affordable Housing Project Fund and community housing land releases:

- a. Yerrabi Yurwang Child and Family Aboriginal Corporation
- b. Yeddung Murra (Good Pathways) Aboriginal Corporation
- c. EveryMob
- d. Sisters in Spirit
- e. SEARMS Community Housing Aboriginal Corporation

It is not possible to disclose proposals received through the Affordable Housing Project Fund due to probity reasons.

ACCO CHPs are also involved in a wide range of other housing and grants programs, in addition to the Affordable Housing Project Fund.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date:

28/1/25

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