

**Question on Notice
No. 1889
Asked on 27 November 2008**

MR STEVENS asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology (MR SCHWARTEN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the acquisition of land for construction of public housing and Question on Notice No. 834—

- (1) Will he confirm that 25 parcels of land were sold off in 2006–07, 36 in 2005–06 and 287 in 2004–05?
- (2) How many were sold in 2007–08?
- (3) Why were these parcels of land sold instead of kept for future construction of public housing for the 25,000 Queensland applications on the public housing waiting list?

ANSWER:

- (1) The Department of Housing can confirm that 287 parcels of land were sold in 2004–05, 36 in 2005–06 and 25 were sold in 2006–07.
- (2) During 2007–08, 16 parcels of land were sold.
- (3) Land sold by the department is often in areas where the department has a significant level of ownership, or where the land has site specific issues rendering the land unsuitable for social housing outcomes, or where there is limited or changed demand.

The sale of surplus vacant land increases the department's capacity to provide more social housing opportunities. Releasing funds that are tied up in land that is unlikely to be used for construction gives the department a greater capacity to acquire sites more suited to the development of accommodation for one and two-person households, accommodation for people with a disability, or to acquire or construct new dwellings.