Question on Notice

No. 906

Asked on 14 June 2011

MR GIBSON asked the Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women (MS STRUTHERS)—

QUESTION

With reference to the number of households experiencing housing stress within the Gympie Electorate—

- (1) What is the total number of people on the waiting list for long-term social housing in Gympie and what were the waiting lists for the same period in 2010, 2009 and 2008?
- (2) What is the total number of people who are currently tenants in government managed social housing in Gympie and what were the numbers of tenants for the same period in 2010, 2009 and 2008?
- (3) What is the current housing stock for long-term social housing in Gympie and what was the number of housing stock for the same period in 2010, 2009 and 2008?

ANSWER

It is important for the Member to note that a 'wait list' process of allocating social housing has not been used in Queensland since 2008 when the Queensland Government introduced the One Social Housing System. Under the One Social Housing System, the 'wait list' has been replaced with the Housing Register which is based on levels of need. There are no longer separate wait lists. For this reason, Housing Register data post September 2008 is not directly comparable to earlier wait-list data.

One of the achievements of the Bligh Government that I am most proud of is the construction or purchase of more than 4,833 new units of social housing since 30 June 2008. These properties are distributed all over the state including in the electorate of Gympie.

These new homes have been made possible by the Queensland Government's \$500 million investment from the Future Growth Fund into new social housing, with \$90 million spent in 2010–11, and \$60 million committed for 2011–12.

The build also includes more than 2,700 of the 4,000 homes that will be built by June 2012 as a result of the \$1.16 billion investment by the Commonwealth Government through the Nation Building Jobs Plan—Social Housing Initiative. I remind the Member that every one of these homes was opposed by the Liberal National Coalition that he is a member of, all of whom voted against the Nation Building Jobs Plan in the Federal Parliament.

Each of these 4,833 new dwellings is a home for a Queensland household in need. They provide secure, affordable accommodation to families and individuals suffering housing stress, which enables them to make long term plans and helps get their lives back on track. With each of these homes, we are making Queensland fairer, and helping ease the burden on our most vulnerable community members.

In the electorate of Gympie, we have seen a net increase in social housing stock of 62 extra homes in the last three years.

- (1) Details of the number of applications on the Housing Register for long-term social housing in the electorate of Gympie as at 31 May in each year specified are as follows:
- 2011: 224
- 2010: 195
- 2009: 179
- 2008: 335.
- (2) Details of the number of tenancies in social housing in the electorate of Gympie as at 31 May in each year specified are as follows:
- 2011: 471
- 2010: 439
- 2009: 419
- 2008: 447.
- (3) Details of housing stock for long-term social housing in the electorate of Gympie as at 31 May in each year specified are as follows:
- 2011: 482
- 2010: 453
- 2009: 423
- 2008: 420.