

Question on Notice

No. 839

Asked on Thursday, 17 June 2021

MR T MANDER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise as at 1 June 2021 (broken down by state electorate) (a) how many dwellings managed by the department have been uninhabited for 30 days or more, (b) the length of time the dwelling has been uninhabited and (c) how many bedrooms the dwelling has?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

The department does not disclose the location of current or future social housing properties, so as to not compromise the safety and privacy of our customers, many of whom may have circumstances that present a greater need for these details to be protected.

As one of the largest residential property portfolio managers, the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy actively manages the portfolio to minimise the length of time public housing is vacant and ensure people in high housing need receive timely assistance.

The vacant maintenance program ensures that the property is fit to live in, is in good repair, and provides a healthy, secure, and safe home. Where possible, maintenance work is undertaken within benchmarked timeframes to reinstate the property to a lettable standard.

- a) As at 1 June 2021, 452 dwellings managed by the department were uninhabited for more than 30 days.
- b) As at 1 June 2021, the median days vacant across Queensland is 17 days.
- c) The number of bedrooms in these vacant dwellings varied from one to five bedrooms.

Like any landlord, in the current housing market, the department has a low vacancy rate. Properties become vacant for a range of reasons such as tenancy turnover, tenant transfers, property upgrades or disability modifications. Vacancy turnaround can be impacted by difficulties in tenancing properties in hard-to-let locations, or those which require more significant maintenance or upgrade work.