

## Question on Notice

No. 1041

Asked on Thursday, 13 October 2022

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

QUESTION:

With reference to answer to Question on Notice No. 764 of 2022 and the Help to Home Program—

Will the Minister advise (a) the total number of departmental staff (FTE) allocated to the program, (b) the total number of external (i.e. contractor) staff allocated to the program and (c) the dollar amount spent in staff wages (both internal and external) since the program's inception?

ANSWER:

Help to Home is just one Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative funded under the *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021–2025* and provides an opportunity for property owners to help Queenslanders in need. Help to Home was also referenced at the Emergency Housing Security Stakeholders meeting earlier this year as an option to address housing challenges faced due to flooding events.

Staff allocated to Help to Home have been responsible for program development and administration in line with Queensland Government procurement processes, and continue to undertake rigorous assessments of properties, including the coordination of property inspections and leading negotiations on behalf of the State. As at 30 September 2022, two departmental positions and three agency contractors are allocated to Help to Home, with a total of \$461 242 spent on wages funded from within existing departmental budget.

Since expressions of interest were called for in late July, 53 properties have been submitted for assessment. In a time where the private market is experiencing exceptionally low vacancy rates, Help to Home has been able to secure an additional 19 properties for social housing, providing homes for up to 116 people. A further 15 properties are under active consideration.

Expressions of interest are still open, and I encourage anyone looking to participate in Help to Home to visit the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy's website and submit their properties for consideration.