

Question on Notice

No. 479

Asked on Tuesday, 24 May 2022

MRS S BENNETT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of people who are currently homeless and on the waiting list for highest priority emergency or social housing in the Wide Bay Area and (b) what is the average length of wait time for people in the Wide Bay on the highest priority list to secure safe housing?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

Queensland does not operate a social housing waiting list but does have a housing register, which is used by housing service centres and non-government providers to allocate social housing.

The latest publicly available Social Housing Register data, reported as applications is available on the Queensland Government Open Data Portal at <https://www.data.qld.gov.au/dataset/social-housing-register>. This information shows that as at 30 June 2021, there are eight applications for housing with an indicator of homelessness in the Burnett State Electorate which is included in the Wide Bay Burnett region. The number of months an applicant has been on the Social Housing Register is also available on the Queensland Government Open Data Portal.

As part of the *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025*, QuickStarts Qld will see 170 new social homes commenced in Wide Bay Burnett by 30 June 2025, through a planned investment of \$49.7 million over four years, supporting more than 156 full-time equivalent jobs. This is in addition to the 50 new social homes that are already commenced under the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017–2027, of these 30 have already been completed.

As at 30 April 2022, under QuickStarts Qld, contracts have been awarded for the commencement of 24 new homes in the Wide Bay Burnett Region.