

Question on Notice

No. 36

Asked on Tuesday, 10 February 2026

MS B ASIF ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH (HON S O'CONNOR)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Courier Mail reporting on 19 January 2026, that 10,573 people were removed from Queensland's social housing register between 1 November 2024 and 1 November 2025, after the department scrapped 6,226 individual applications—

Will the Minister advise (a) of the 10,573 people removed from the social housing register between 1 November 2024 and 1 November 2025, how many were removed in each local government area (LGA) (reported separately by LGA), (b) of the 6,266 individual applications scrapped during this period, how many were removed for each of the following reasons, consistent with the Social Housing Eligibility Criteria (i) household income exceeding eligibility limits, (ii) no longer meeting the housing need or wellbeing criteria, (iii) no longer meeting Queensland residency or visa requirements, (iv) failure to provide information or verify eligibility, (v) voluntary withdrawal by applicant and (vi) duplicate or administrative removal and (vii) any other reason and (c) how many of the 10,573 people removed were subsequently (i) found to be eligible again after reassessment, (ii) transferred to another housing assistance program or (iii) exited the register with no alternative housing assistance provided?

ANSWER:

Applicants on the social housing register have an obligation under the *Housing Act 2003* to advise the department of any changes to their circumstances. This includes updates to their address, the number of people on the application, preference areas, or if housing assistance is no longer required.

The Housing Register is a point-in-time register of social housing applications. Social housing applications are made at the household level which may consist of multiple people. Decisions regarding eligibility, transfers to other housing assistance programs, or removal from the register are made at the household level. As such the information provided throughout this response is based on household applications. Isolating this information for individuals at the level of detail requested would be resource-intensive and not an efficient use of departmental resources.

The data on the register fluctuates daily due to various factors, including the addition of new applications, applicants being housed, changes to household circumstances that affect application status, applicants no longer requiring housing, and the cancellation of applications. These changes directly impact the number of applications on the register at any given time.

- (a) Applications removed from 1 November 2024 and 1 November 2025 (reported separately by LGA): Aurukun Shire Council – 15; Balonne Shire Council – 8; Banana Shire Council – 12; Barcaldine Regional Council – 4; Brisbane City Council – 1,070; Bundaberg Regional Council – 197; Burdekin Shire Council –

28; Burke Shire – 1; Cairns Regional Council – 570; Carpentaria Shire Council – 2; Cassowary Coast Regional Council – 32; Central Highlands Regional Council – 19; Charters Towers Regional Council – 15; Cloncurry Shire Council – 10; Cook Shire Council – 18; Croydon Shire Council – 1; Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council – 2; Douglas Shire Council – 13; Etheridge Shire Council – 1; Fraser Coast Regional Council – 208; Gladstone Regional Council – 68; Gold Coast City Council – 498; Goondiwindi Regional Council – 9; Gympie Regional Council – 33; Hinchinbrook Shire Council – 10; Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council – 5; Ipswich City Council – 250; Isaac Regional Council – 7; Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council – 2; Livingstone Shire Council – 16; Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council – 3; Lockyer Valley Regional Council – 12; Logan City Council – 428; Longreach Regional Council – 2; Mackay Regional Council – 224; Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council – 5; Maranoa Regional Council – 2; Mareeba Shire Council – 28; Moreton Bay Regional Council – 539; Mount Isa City Council – 33; Murweh Shire Council – 8; Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council – 1; Noosa Shire Council – 19; North Burnett Regional Council – 4; Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council – 8; Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council – 1; Paroo Shire Council – 6; Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council – 3; Redland City Council – 166; Rockhampton Regional Council – 110; Scenic Rim Regional Council – 41; Somerset Regional Council – 3; South Burnett Regional Council – 19; Southern Downs Regional Council – 26; Sunshine Coast Regional Council – 383; Tablelands Regional Council – 170; Toowoomba Regional Council – 220; Torres Shire Council – 6; Torres Strait Island Regional Council – 1; Townsville City Council – 529; Western Downs Regional Council – 47; Whitsunday Regional Council – 52; Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council – 2; Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council – 1.

- (b) No applications were “scrapped” as suggested by the Member.
- (c) Of the 6,226 cancelled applications:
 - i. 47 applications were re-instated due to applicants re-engaging with the department within three months of their application being cancelled.
 - ii. 254 applicants received a private housing product or service from the department after their application was cancelled.
 - iii. 5,925 applications remain cancelled as the applicants did not re-engage with the department.