

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING — COMMUNITY HOUSING GROWTH STRATEGY

432. Mr P. ABETZ to the Minister for Housing:

Before I ask my question, I acknowledge the staff, board members and students from Tuart College in the electorate of Balcatta on behalf of the member for Balcatta, Chris Hatton.

Further to the announcement by the minister that under the community housing growth strategy the transfer of housing assets to the community housing sector will increase the supply of social and affordable housing, how many of these growth properties have been provided to date?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. I am very pleased to advise the house that the community housing growth strategy, which forms a key component of the government's overall affordability housing strategy, has delivered nearly 150 houses as a result of transferring assets from the Department of Housing to the community housing sector. Members will be aware that eight providers signed up to deliver these new houses at no cost to the state government. They committed to deliver 518 houses by 2020. I am pleased to advise that as of today we now have 150 houses on the ground in many electorates, some of which I have visited. I advise the house of the latest completion, which is a 38-unit development in Coolbellup that was completed by Access Housing under a design-and-construct contract with BGC. These 38 units comprise 10 one-bedroom units and 28 two-bedroom units, providing accommodation to singles, couples and small families. It is a well-located area near a sporting field, public transport and also the new Coolbellup city centre. It is very well located and built at no cost to the taxpayers of Western Australia.

Mr P.C. Tinley: You just need a bus now!

The SPEAKER: Member for Willagee, if you keep shouting out, you will be on your bus! So please stop. I call you to order for the first time.

Mr W.R. MARMION: Other projects completed under the growth strategy to date include 53 dwellings through Access Housing, 19 of which are in the Fremantle area, four in Eaton, seven in Mandurah—the member for Mandurah knows about those—17 in Capel, and six in Australind. Also completed are eight dwellings in Geraldton through Community Housing Ltd—the member for Geraldton knows about those; three dwellings in Bunbury through Alliance Housing WA; 30 dwellings in the Broome North development through Foundation Housing; and 19 dwellings through the Great Southern Community Housing Association—for the member for Albany, seven in McKail and 12 in Cockburn Road, Albany. The government is getting on with delivering 20 000 houses by 2020, and the community housing growth strategy forms a key component of that strategy.